

THE  
W. BAYLY  
L I F E  
OF  
J A C O B.

IN TEN BOOKS.

---

By M. PEDDLE.

---

VOL. II.

---

SHERBORNE: Printed by R. GOADBY and Co.  
M.DCC.LXXXV.





---

T H E  
L I F E  
O F  
J A C O B.

---

B O O K VI.

---

THE amiable Hebrew became daily more endear'd to his Egyptian master, who regarded him with sentiments of parental tenderness. Fidelity and affection, which inspir'd the grateful heart of Joseph, had diffus'd an air of serenity o'er his whole deportment.—Not with less joy, a twain impatient to pursue his rural task, be-

VOL. II. A holds

holds the glad some rays of the sun after a long impending cloud, than the benevolent Potiphar meditated on the engaging chearfulness of his belov'd companion.—He appoints him ruler throughout his numerous household; each faithful domestic regards him with reverence; no sooner do they hear his mild commands, than with the sweet avidity of love they hasten to obey them: he finds an interest in ev'ry heart; and whilst his fidelity obtains the unbounded confidence of his benign master, he beholds domestic peace diffus'd o'er all the happy dwelling.—The DIVINE DISPENSER of every blessing, decreed conspicuous rewards to his integrity; for in his all-perfect sight the exercise of social virtue is more pleasing, than midnight orisons that from monastic walls at dead of night,

night, ascend on the cold wing of dull formality.

A voice from the recess of uncreated light commanded a band of benign spirits to repair to the earth, there to guard the trust committed to the son of Israel. Swifter than those rays of light which are darted on the earth from the solar orb, they obey the divine mandate. Whether reclining on the flow'ry margin of some heavenly stream or in groves of unfading amaranth chanting ceaseless praise, the bless'd immortals quitted their placid retreats, and with joyous hymns stood before the throne.—The felicity of these pure beings far surpasses the most exalted ideas of mortality; no ungentle passions disturb their tranquillity; every faculty is absorpt in bliss; for they are continually receiving an in-

crease of happiness from the effulgent presence of their God.—They find employments suited to their exalted faculties; some visit the various planetary systems, to admire the regularity of their revolving orbs; others delight in tracing the scheme of providence in the government of this lower world; they adore the divine justice in every dispensation; for when to human comprehension all seems involv'd in mazy error, they behold the clear display of unerring wisdom;—Yet thus exalted above the frail possessors of mortality, they disdain not to visit their polluted dwellings; to assist them in their various trials, and animate assaulted virtue.—Swiftly they left the ethereal plains and pass'd the celestial portals.—A flood of glory mark'd the flight of the immortals through the azure space, conspicuous only to those  
happy

happy few, who retiring at the calm hour of eve from secular employ hold divine communion with the ALMIGHTY SOURCE of their existence in the thick grove, or on the sequester'd banks of some solitary stream.—To their contemplative view, it resembled those luminous streaks which often at the close of a summer's day, waving in the starry canopy, affright the timid eye of superstition.—The radiant band descending on the Egyptian plains separated for their various tasks ; some chose the valleys, where the springing blade robes the surface of the soil with verdure ; they watch'd the progress of the swelling ear, and preserv'd it from chilling blasts or lightning's destructive flash ; others a domestic charge assign'd, guarded the house of Potiphar from all the various ills that await mortality.—Progressive seasons felt the divine influence ;

fluence ; nature from her abundant lap scatter'd the ruddy fruits of summer, and deck'd with waving harvests the golden vale. Gay sportive flocks adorn'd the gently rising hills with fleeces white as new fall'n snows.—The generous owner, who regarded wealth but as the happy means of yielding comfort to the wretched, beheld the vast increase, and ador'd with gratitude the God of Israel.

The house of Potiphar was decorated with the polish'd labours of art ; rais'd on pillars of whitest marble, the lofty dome yielded an artificial coolness, and refresh'd the fainting guest amidst oppressive heat.—Agreeable murmurs of falling fountains perpetually pleas'd the ear, while soft music echo'd through the magnificent apartments.—Yet amidst the elegance and refinement



refinement of Egyptian taste, Joseph forgot not the felicity of the pastoral life ; he sigh'd for the simple pleasures of the artless shepherd, and long'd again to hear the bleating of the fleecy tribes.

——Far to the south, beneath those mountains whose brows are cover'd with eternal snow, vast deserts lie, in which, compell'd by tyrannic masters, the wretched shepherds feed their flocks, shut from all intercourse with social life ; nothing was heard throughout the wild extent but harsh murmurs of despair ; the tedious day was pass'd in gloomy discontent ; and night, which gave but a short respite from their toils, unwelcom'd came.——On the confines of these unsocial deserts Joseph often wander'd in his solitary walks, and underneath a jutting rock was accusom'd to rehearse his tender sorrows. He recounted to the soft melody of his lute  
the

the virtues of Israel, and the careless pastimes of his early days. Sometimes he recall'd the cruelty of his brethren, but soon a rising sigh and crystal tear suppress'd his melting voice. He chiefly delighted to sing the attributes of the DEITY, and the happiness which awaits the mind that is conscious of its integrity : it was then his voice was unusually melodious ; Echo seem'd delighted with his charming accents, and the attentive swains, each reclining on his rugged staff, listen'd to the pleasing strains.—Soon their uncultivated minds were charm'd with the sublime truths he sung : he discover'd to them that happiness has her residence in the mind alone, independent of external objects ; he taught them to relish the pleasures which their deserts yielded ; to enjoy the treasures of nature, and prize their  
own

own exemption from the cares which wait on wealth. Happy, my friends, he would say, happy are ye whom fate has plac'd at distance from the cares of a more active life. Ah! may ye never know the various ills which pride, ambition, and the love of wealth or power, have scatter'd o'er the wretched world.—Simplicity and innocence here offer their untainted joys. Possess with gratitude, nor foolishly desire untasted evils.

Whilst he thus taught them to relish the solid peace which their sequester'd station yielded, he also unfolded to their clouded reason the infinite perfections of the DEITY; and instructed them in offering an acceptable worship.—Soon in her train religion led the social virtues; no longer the dreary waste resounded with accents of despair; no

longer plaintive murmurs mark'd the  
 fleeting hours; each bosom dilated  
 with friendly sentiments; youthful pea-  
 sants compos'd wreaths for the shepher-  
 desses, and the elder, quitting their un-  
 social caves, join'd in the general festi-  
 vity; soon as evening shades fell,  
 around they were wont to assemble on  
 the enamell'd plain, and form a rural  
 dance; while from behind the moun-  
 tain's brow arose the silver lamp of  
 night to light them to their guiltless re-  
 creations.—Fear not, chaste queen of  
 rural sports, to lay aside thy cloudy  
 veil; for here no lawless riot, no guilty  
 dissipation shall offend thy pure ray.

In a beautiful grotto within the rock  
 Joseph discover'd the tomb of the an-  
 cient Memnon\*; four crystal columns  
 supported

\* Memnon, the Egyptian, is said to have been  
 the inventor of letters.

supported its base, and characters inexplicable to the unletter'd swain, adorn'd its sculptur'd fides. In the glittering incrustations that cover'd the azure roof, imagination might discern a variety of lucid forms, and the most curious fossils form'd the variegated floor.—In this cool retreat the enlighten'd sage had retir'd from the interruptions of a busy world, and pass'd his lengthen'd years in solitary contemplation. Still on the mountain's side flourish'd those vines and fruit trees whose juicy products had adorn'd his frugal board; softly descending from a crystal spring flow'd the rill at which he quench'd his thirst; yet extant was the seat on which the weary traveller often rested, while for his refreshment the ancient collected milk of his bleating kine and honey from the rock. Rude weeds had overgrown the path

which led to this abode of peace.—  
 With solemn rev'rence Joseph ap-  
 proach'd the tomb, and bending over  
 it, exclaim'd, O venerable relics ! pre-  
 cious remains ! I honour the sage  
 whose tow'ring mind soaring upwards  
 to the FOUNT OF LIGHT, catches from  
 the divine effulgence an enlight'ning  
 beam ; he diffuses it around, and the  
 children of dust rejoice in the heavenly  
 radiance. Long was the rising thought  
 condemn'd to expire in oblivion, or in  
 empty sound to mingle with the vacant  
 air, till Memnon rose, whose immortal  
 genius bade the reflecting mind behold  
 her own resemblance on the letter'd  
 scroll.—Memnon, who from some high  
 arch-angel snatch'd the key of wisdom,  
 and bade futurity explore its inestima-  
 ble treasures.—Thee future bards shall  
 hail. Science and Art bedeck'd with  
 roseate



roseate buds, shall heap their laurel garlands on thy tomb.

Intent on admiring nature in her wild magnificence, Joseph attain'd those lofty mountains which bound towards the south the fertile land of Egypt; their summits are rob'd in everlasting snow, whilst the vallies beneath exhibit the most luxuriant scenes that gay imagination can suggest. Delicious fruits continually charm the eye; plantanes and dates mingle their loaded branches with those of the vine and fig tree.— With painful steps he climb'd the steep acclivities, where softly gliding from its Abyssinian source he often descry'd the Nile; calm and pellucid roll'd its gentle waves, like those of a clear rivulet that meanders through some flow'ry mead; but swoln by melting snows, the rapid stream rushes impetuous down the

the rugged steep, and dashing from rock to rock, resounds through all the hollow caves; descending to the vale, it forms a lucid sheet, diffusing plenty as it flows along.

In a charming meadow, on the margin of that fertilizing river, Joseph beheld the lovely Asenath. It was at that hour, sacred to celestial meditation, when nature, oppress'd by the blaze of day, silently sinks into repose; all was stillness; no sounds disturb'd the ambient air, save gentle murmurs of the silver flood, and songs of shepherds resounding from a distant forest; when the son of Israel, as was his custom, retir'd from the throng'd city to enjoy the calm beauties of the silent hour, and pour out his virtuous soul to the SUPREME.—A voice, melodious as angelic strains, recall'd his attention to terrestrial

restrial objects. O THOU ! it said, by  
 whatever name mortals address thee,  
 AUTHOR OF NATURE ! whose creative  
 hand form'd yonder resplendent hosts  
 of stars ! before they glitter'd in the blue  
 concave, thou wast. Before that orb,  
 which guides our day, emitted his  
 chearful light, thou didst inhabit eternity.  
 Cherubims and seraphims contempla-  
 ted thy glory ; they sang thine infinite  
 perfections. Then didst thou create  
 us, inhabitants of this globe ; then didst  
 thou form us, to glorify thy name.  
 Divine employment ! exercise of angels !  
 O UNCREATED EXCELLENCE ! irradi-  
 ate my soul with knowledge of thyself ;  
 teach her to love thee with sublime ar-  
 dour ; for thou art the source of all  
 that is amiable in nature. May all its  
 secret motions be directed by thy un-  
 erring law, and every latent wish its  
 centre have in thee !

Whilst

Whilst thus the lovely daughter of  
 Poti-pherah offered her evening orisons,  
 Joseph, in silent admiration, remain'd  
 within the umbrageous shade, conceal'd  
 by interwoven branches.—How irre-  
 sistible, said he, is the force of beauty,  
 when virtue is its amiable auxiliary !  
 'Tis this which renders the fair posses-  
 sors more than mortal, and assimilates  
 them to angelic beings. O that it were  
 destin'd me to unite my soul to thine,  
 thou soft assemblage of perfections !—  
 The breezy breath of wind caught the  
 tender aspiration, and wafted it to  
 Heaven. As aromatic zephyrs rustle  
 among the palm tree's verdant foliage,  
 the soft ejaculation whisper'd along the  
 celestial plains ; immortals heard it,  
 and ALMIGHTY LOVE† approv'd.

Fairer than the blooming virgins of  
 Egypt was the lovely Asenath ; the  
 blushes

† The apostle tells us that God is love.

blushes of Aurora were on her cheek,  
 and in the modest lustre of her eyes  
 shone forth the kindred virtues. Her  
 understanding was cultivated, and her  
 sentiments refin'd by the divine pre-  
 cepts of her father, whose life was de-  
 voted to the service of Heaven; and  
 by him she had been instructed in all  
 the learning becoming her softer sex.—  
 Piety, like a radiant lamp, threw a  
 pleasing lustre o'er her every action;  
 she beheld not the works of the Su-  
 PREME with an incurious eye; in each  
 object of the fair creation the DIVINE  
 ARTIFICER appear'd to her researches;  
 every sentiment was fraught with love  
 to Heaven and benevolence to all the  
 human race.—Thus she became a  
 source of inexpressible delight to her  
 sire; her presence diffus'd joy through-  
 out his household; and whilst plenty  
 crown'd his hospitable table, the sons  
 VOL. II. C and

and daughters of adversity were refresh'd by her beneficence.—The Egyptian swains celebrated her praises, but to the Hebrew were her affections given; the son of Israel alone possess'd her love; she had discern'd his intrinsic merit through the dark cloud of sorrow which encompass'd his fate; her heart had melted in pity for his wrongs, yet knew she not the soft emotion own'd a tend'rer name. The still ear of night alone had witness'd her unconscious sighs, and when imagination presented his pleasing image, adorn'd with every external charm, but more distinguish'd for the graces of his mind, she repell'd the tender sensation. But the SIRE OF ALL, approving, saw the virtuous flame; for genuine love is that celestial spark which heightens ev'ry blessing his indulgent care bestows, and casts



casts a chearing light o'er the dark shades of human life.

Joseph had long regarded the amiable Asenath with sensations such as once inspir'd our general parent, when to his view, led by her CREATOR, Eve appear'd in all the charms of mind and person.—He was animated with a refin'd passion, such as souls, divested of their clay, might feel, or angels in the realms of light confess. But the remembrance of his situation repress'd each tender sentiment.—Unseen by the fair object of his delicate attachment, he retir'd from the verdant shade, nor dar'd invade the hallow'd retirement which virtue herself had consecrated.—As he homeward bent his pensive steps, thus to the silent air he utter'd the effusions of his love :—Why have I receiv'd a soul susceptible of the tenderest

fions, yet am oppress'd by the remembrance of slavery.—O best and fairest of thy CREATOR's works! why am I thus conscious of thy excellence whilst encompass'd by servile bonds? Ah! was I as in the careless days of youth, when free as mountain zephyrs I led my sportive flocks, and like the feather'd choir delighted rov'd from grove to grove; sought the clear riv'let or the embow'ring shade as choice unfetter'd led; then, O Asenath! had I sought thy love. I would have led thee to my mother's tent, and Israel should have pour'd his paternal benediction on our heads. I would have made the rocks of Canaan reverberate with thy praise, and on the palms of Mamre engrav'd thy pleasing name;—but now my tuneful reed in silence sleeps; for shall I sing of love in the land of my captivity?—Shall I seek thy affection  
whilst

whilst an exile from my father's house and bereft of every social joy?—Ah, no ! some happier swain shall share thy love and pledge thee his willing vows ; yet shall thy dear remembrance be precious to my soul ; I will supplicate the ETERNAL for thy felicity from the rising to the setting day.

The tutelar spirits beheld, with pity blended with applause, the amiable conflict.—Hast thou not seen, my celestial companion, said the divine Abdiel, the struggles which rend the bosom of our belov'd charge ? He loves the daughter of Poti-pherah, yet with inflexible constancy conceals the lambent flame. Asenath shall be given to him, but first affliction with her iron hand must once more wound his soul. Let us, my immortal friend, attend his steps, to communicate

municate invifible affiftance in the approaching hour of trial.

Malala, the wife of Potiphar, was in the meridian of youthful charms; ſhe was beautiful as a daughter of Paradife; but her mind reſembled thoſe unlovely parts of the creation which have never felt the power of cultivation; where no friendly hand has taught the roſe, ſweet emblem of the virtuous mind! to breathe its fragrance o'er the wild; but noxious weeds ſpontaneous ſpring from the uncultur'd ſoil.—Malala had paſs'd the ſweet morn of life amidſt the ſplendors of a luxurious court. She had never heard the ſoft whiſper of a friend checking the high career of youthful vanity, nor truth's impartial voice diſcov'ring long cheriſh'd folly.—She knew no bliſs ſuperior to the poiſ'nous flattery of a fallacious world; to attract

tract attention from an admiring throng—her lovely form was taught to please, and auburn tresses to wanton in beautiful ringlets on her neck.—What folly to adorn a transient frame which soon perhaps must moulder in the tomb, yet destitute of every ornament to leave the eternal mind.—Thus a superb mausoleum is rear'd o'er some mould'ring urn.—The sculptor bids each gaudy decoration rise on the lifeless stone, and art exhausts her utmost powers to conceal poor perishable dust.

Joseph, whose susceptible heart own'd the awful power of beauty, durst not contemplate it in the wife of his benefactor; he suffer'd not the poison of flattery to dwell on his lip.—Accustom'd to receive the adulation of an insidious train, she meditated revenge. Secure in conscious rectitude, Joseph suspected  
not

not the storm which threaten'd his peace.  
 —The artless peasant thus pursues his way, smiling in the integrity of his heart, nor apprehends the danger that is conceal'd beneath his path. On a sudden, his careless steps sink in the baneful lake, whose surface is cloth'd with deceitful verdure.—Returning to the house of his once benevolent master, the amiable Hebrew beheld him moving with pensive steps towards the bower where they had so often pass'd the evening hours in pleasing converse.  
 —At sight of his generous benefactor, the friend of his hapless youth, his affectionate bosom felt a transport of gratitude; joy animated his engaging mien.—But the countenance of Potiphar was not, as usual, brighten'd with benignity; a cloud hung on his brow, it was the gloom of displeasure soften'd by pity.—He cast a look of unutterable



ble anguish on the astonish'd youth ; a tear fell from his eye as he beckon'd him to follow ; they pass'd a gloomy avenue of cedars with sadden'd pace. Joseph, accustom'd to hear only mild effusions of friendship from the mouth of his belov'd master, awaited with anxiety the result of a silence to him replete with horror ; yet a stranger to the terrors of guilt, he suspected not the cause of those emotions which agitated his unhappy friend. Speak, said he, my rever'd benefactor, and let me at least share those anxieties which now disturb thy peace. Hide not from me the cause of this inquietude : happy shall I be, if by participation I can alleviate thy sorrows.—The afflicted Egyptian replied not, but beheld him with undescrivable feelings. At length he broke the awful silence.

Tell me, O Joseph ! what mistaken kindness led me to compassionate thy early sorrows, when I saw thee, friendless, a stranger on the mart. As a tender plant is shelter'd from the cruel blast, I provided thee an asylum from thy wrongs beneath my roof. With what solicitude I watch'd thy youthful steps ; with what delight survey'd thy opening worth, the powers who pervade the ways of mortals have beheld. Yet how hast thou repaid my tenderness ? Hide, hide your beams, ye stars ! witness not the foul ingratitude.—A shepherd surveying his flocks feeding beneath an impending precipice, sees the massy rock instantaneously shiver'd to its centre by a thunderbolt darted from the black cloud ; the disjointed fragments fall with a tremendous noise at his feet. Motionless he stands in mute astonishment.—No less amazement was

in

in the countenance of the injur'd Hebrew. With much emotion he attempted to speak; but Potiphar, in a voice tremulous and broken, resum'd:—Leave me, unhappy youth; go where thy wretched destiny directs, but see my face no more.—He then, with trembling steps, penetrated into the thickest of the grove.

Joseph, left alone, indulg'd the violence of his grief, which now was utter'd in sighs and groans. He cast himself in an agony of woe on the cold ground. See thy face no more, he reiterated. Dreadful sentence! Why was I not rather doom'd to the heaviest punishment Egyptian laws inflict?—Yet what is my offence?—In what instance of my life have I deserv'd this rigour?—Again I feel the pangs of parting from a tender father's endearments.

ments. O generous guardian of my youth! My second fire! To leave thee thus is torture inexpressible. Banish'd from thy sight, yet conscious of no crime!—O THOU! whose eye alone can trace the soul through all its dark retreats, to thee I dare appeal. O let thy presence guide my uncertain steps when I wander a hapless fugitive amidst unfrequented wilds.—He could utter no more; he left the silent shade, and careless of the way in which he wander'd, had approach'd the house where he had so long been used to hear the voice of kindness.—He enter'd to bid a last farewell to the household of his master. An aged domestic came forth from the weeping throng. My son, he said, I know not the counsels of the HIGHEST, or why he permits the innocent to suffer; but the severe dispensation is for a little season; thine integrity

grity shall be evinc'd, as the clear beams of the sun when he disperses the clouds which veil'd his radiance. Go in the strength of OMNIPOTENCE ; his providence shall guide thee ; it shall be a lamp to thy feet.

In the mean time Potiphar had sought the inmost recess of his dwelling. On a splendid sofa he reclin'd and indulg'd the bitterness of sorrow. Sometimes starting from a painful reverie, he would exclaim, Surely he merits not this cruelty ; still I see that ingenuous mien, those looks of innocence, which fill'd me with compassion when first I saw him on the strand of Memphis.—What affection, what long-approv'd fidelity have mark'd his ripen'd years! —The perfidious Malala enter'd ; her hand sustain'd an ivory lute : touch'd with exquisite skill, harmonious notes resounded

resounded through the lofty dome, but Potiphar heard them not ; he was fill'd with inexpressible anguish.—Rous'd by her artful reproaches, he no longer sees the image of the artless Hebrew ; his fancy delineates one vers'd in the deepest wiles ; the soft suggestions of pity were repress'd : impell'd by unjust resentment, he cried, His fate is in thy hand ; deal by him as thou wilt.—A lioness prowling along the plain sees the harmless flocks feeding in the vernal pastures: the intimidated shepherds fly ; they abandon their defenceless charge: swifter than lightning she springs from a thicket, and seizes her devoted prey.—Thus inspir'd with malignant transport Malala left the dome, and summoning to her the ministers of vengeance, gave command to seize the injur'd youth.—Instantly they loaded his tender limbs with ponderous iron ;  
they



they drag him from the astonish'd crowd,  
and in a dungeon's dark abyfs deposited  
the victim of unjust revenge.



( 78 )

---

---

THE  
L I F E  
O F  
J A C O B.

---

B O O K VII.

---

**J**OSEPH enter'd his prison house,  
and beheld the seats of woe, the  
dreary mansions of affliction!—Loud  
groans and the exclamations of misery  
echo'd through all the gloomy vaults;  
—the rattling of chains and the mur-  
murs of the wretched assault his ear  
from every side;—he was rapt in sad  
attention, then with an animated voice  
he

he exclaim'd, 'Tis thine, O conscious innocence! to light those dark retreats, and cheer the abode of sorrow;—inspir'd by thee, the children of adversity smile on their chains, and feel a bliss greater than that which irradiates the breasts of monarchs. Thou art the opiate which sheds sweet peace around these beds of misery!—Then, with a countenance of serenity, he sat down on the wretched straw, which was all that screen'd him from the dank earth.

Enoah and Abdiel stood by him; soft melody fill'd all the gloomy receptacle of sorrow;—it penetrated the soul of Joseph;—he sunk into a tranquil slumber:—the seraphs survey'd him with divine complacency.—Is there, said Enoah, in all the assignments of the happy, a task more pleasing than to

attend the just?—to watch unseen their steps, and view each motion of the untainted mind?—Soon as I knew thy embassy on earth, I left the ambrosial shade where oft we have tun'd the silver lyre to JEHOVAH's awful name; and caus'd the everlasting hills to resound our swelling notes.—Along the bright empyreum I flew, and prostrate before the eternal throne, permission ask'd to join thy ministry on earth.—HE from whose presence flows our bliss granted the request; we were united in one delightful employ;—since that day on which we met on Hebron's flow'ry plain, how oft with tears of holy rapture have I heard our belov'd charge, at eve or fragrant morn, chanting with pious fervor the excellence of virtue; or in such transports as inspire our own immortal ardors, pour his grateful soul to the SUPREME.—Misery cannot

cannot reach a mind so spiritualiz'd, so far exalted above the transient joys of sense.—See him now superior to his wrongs; serene amidst the storm.—With what composure doth his gentle spirit rest!—See he smiles!—The peace of the MOST HIGH resides within him.

Thou knowest, my belov'd companion, replied the benign seraph, that one sigh of oppress'd innocence has more of Heaven in its sensation than all the honors of an applausive world. Mortals know not this; thence they ignorantly arraign the ways of providence, and ask why SOVEREIGN WISDOM gives the bitter portion to his chosen few? Ah! knew they but, the sweet tranquillity, the joy almost divine, which buoys the virtuous soul beneath life's storms, for one such moment

would they give an age of their ideal  
bliss.

Righteous is HE, return'd Enoch,  
who fills the eternal throne ; in mercy  
he governs the world ; in mercy he  
permits affliction to alight on his be-  
lov'd ; by many sorrows he perfects  
the human soul, and ripens it for fel-  
city.—Then, elevating their celestial  
voices, they sang.—Soft whisper, ye  
winds through the ethereal arch ;—  
blow not, ye howling blasts, whilst the  
belov'd of the ETERNAL sleeps ;—in  
silence descend ye soft dews of the  
night ;—ye humid mists gently alight  
on the tender blossoms whilst the fa-  
vour'd of OMNIPOTENCE reposeth.—  
Thou moon who walkest through the  
azure vault ;—ye stars, the bright at-  
tendants on her reign, dart your gent-  
lest beams, and in your silent song de-  
clare



clare his praise, who from on high sheds peace and joy serene within the virtuous breast.—Rejoice in the LORD, O ye righteous! and triumph in your adversity:—when he lifteth up the rod, when he pours out the cup of affliction; it becomes the just to be thankful.

The dews of night were again irradiated by returning day, and the rosy morning beam'd on the joyous earth.—The Hebrew still rested on his bed of straw, lock'd in gentle slumbers; his countenance was yet blooming, and a smile play'd around his face.—The MOST HIGH, in whose sight the sufferings of the virtuous are more precious than even the exalted ardors of the highest archangel who surrounds the throne, inspir'd the ancient Nicanor, who guarded the unhappy, with compassion for his youthful prisoner; he  
enter'd,

enter'd, and beheld him yet reclin'd in balmy repose, whom he thought to have found pale, emaciated.—Thou reviver of nature, he cried, refreshing sleep ! seldom, ah seldom, does thy soft influence light on these dreary abodes ! yet now thou sheddest thy somnific dew on the wretched ; thou sealest the eye wearied with weeping. Sleep on thou son of sorrow : may peaceful visions alleviate thy affliction, and lull thy spirit into sweet composure !—Methinks thy tranquil looks declare thy mind a stranger to the awful terrors of guilt.

Joseph now open'd his eyes on the light, which feebly glimmer'd through the grated windows of his prison. He look'd around him on the abodes of misery.—Where am I ? said he.—Is this the friendly dome of Potiphar ?—Ah, no ! it is a prison !—

OF

OF MERCY, support me in this dreadful crisis ; arm me with fortitude, whose stedfast eye is fix'd on Heaven, whilst with intrepid step she treads the fluctuating earth.—Thy sacred laws, O thou OMNISCIENT ! I have not transgress'd ; I felt myself on every side surrounded by thy presence, nor durst my conscious soul indulge a thought of evil.—To thee with filial confidence I now apply, from this abyss of woe ; in the conviction of thy love shall all my griefs be hush'd ; with resignation I will wait the dispensations of thy providence.—He turn'd, and beheld Nicanor seated by him on the earth.—Child of affliction, said the venerable man, suffer not hope to escape from thee ; retain her ; she is the prime chearer of these dark abodes.—Full threescore years has it been my rigid fate to guard the unfortunate within these walls ; my ear has  
long

long been inur'd to the sighs of the wretched ; I have long seen the tears of the unhappy ; yet I feel a more than usual pity for thy early sorrows ; methinks I have an assurance of thy integrity ; that ingenuous mien cannot be the covert of an unworthy mind. Be it my task to alleviate the weight of thy misfortunes ; to tender thee what slender comforts these desolate mansions afford.—But if the sad recital wounds not too deeply thy sensibility, say, by what adverse contingencies thou art consign'd to waste thy youth within these horrid walls.

Rightly, O sage ! replied the patient Hebrew, hast thou styl'd me the offspring of affliction ; for my sorrows are coeval with my existence. Ere my infant tongue had learn'd to thank, in lisping accents, her affectionate cares,

cares, a tender mother was wrested from my innocent caresses; and scarcely was my youthful mind susceptible of a father's tenderness, ere I was forc'd from his endearments, from freedom, from domestic peace, and sold into slavery, by those who own'd with me one common parent. Envious of those effusions of affection by which a belov'd fire supply'd the want of maternal tenderness, my brethren sold me to a band of merchants, by whom I was conducted into Egypt. Here the generous Potiphar purchas'd me at their hands; my youth and my misfortunes inspir'd him with pity; he sooth'd me with the gentle voice of friendship; he regarded me with paternal esteem, and I possess'd for him those tender sentiments which I felt for the venerable author of my being. The traces of my injuries began to be obliterated by

his kindness ; and I had almost forgot I was in bondage, when an insidious voice, with horrid falsehood, abus'd his generous ear.—I was consign'd to imprisonment ; but arm'd with the invulnerable shield of innocence, I bear the rigours of my destiny without repining, and with meek submission wait the hour when the GREAT RULER of events shall call me to behold again the cheerful day.—O Nicanor ! the mind which can repose on SOVEREIGN WISDOM feels not half the evils which await humanity ; and what but guilt destroys the amiable confidence ? Guilt which suppresses the rising ardors of the soul, and bars her flight to the SOURCE of her existence.

Nicanor with surprize heard the son of Israel thus evince that sacred fortitude, which, built on the solid basis of piety,



piety, cannot be shaken by the impetuous whirlwind of terrestrial things. Thou, said he, who art high in the favour of the SUPREME, I revere thee; thou art dignified by suffering; adversity reflects a radiant light around thee; thy virtues shine from out the gloom with a resplendence beyond what prosperity and affluence can bestow. But HE whose awful thunder shakes the guilty sphere, who bids his lightning flash from pole to pole, shall vindicate thy wrongs, and make thy rectitude conspicuous.—O may HE shed sweet peace and mild serenity within thy breast!

Excluded from the exhilarating beams of day, the Hebrew pass'd progressive seasons. Often the mild rays of spring had rob'd the meadows with variegated blossoms, and flush'd the

vernal zephyrs with perfume ; as often  
 had autumn with sedate pace clad  
 in her russet livery the forest's brows,  
 and swell'd the golden ear ; and many  
 a wintry blast check'd the springs of  
 vegetation ; yet the son of Israel saw  
 not the dawning of freedom.—When  
 the new-born day smil'd on the dewy  
 earth, he beheld through the narrow  
 windows of his prison the peasant going  
 to his daily toil, with songs of cheerfulness  
 on his lips ; though cloth'd in the  
 habiliment of penury, health revell'd  
 in his glowing cheek, and content sat  
 on his careless brow. Ah ! cried the  
 imprison'd youth, now is the delightful  
 hour ! now the humid earth emits from  
 her liberal bosom aromatic odours, an  
 offering to her CREATOR.—Why am I  
 not permitted to contemplate thee, O  
 thou ADORABLE BEING ! in the lovely  
 face of nature ?—Why forbid to trace  
 thy

thy glorious footsteps in the glowing  
 scenes of the fair creation?—I see not  
 the magnificence of the rising sun,  
 when his early beams play on the dis-  
 tant eminence; nor behold the float-  
 ing clouds, tinctur'd with gold, when  
 his horizontal rays are reflected in the  
 glistening ocean;—neither in the so-  
 lemn shade of ancient cedars, nor on  
 the illumin'd summit of the rock, can I  
 express the ardors with which the vari-  
 ous scenes of nature impress my rising  
 soul:—these dreary walls limit my  
 bounded view; yet, if in this abode of  
 misery, this abyss of woe, I can allay  
 the force of wretchedness, bid black  
 despair retire from the breast of the  
 unhappy, or diffuse a feeble dawn of  
 consolation o'er the sad inhabitants of  
 this receptacle of sorrow, it is enough,  
 Let the effulgent sun enlighten the day;  
 let the mild moon illumine with a softer  
 light

light the silent hours, and nature wear  
 her robe of brightest verdure :—this  
 grateful task has pleasures beyond what  
 even these delightful scenes afford.—  
 Thy chastisements, O thou SUPREME !  
 are not those of an offended DEITY ;  
 they are the mild corrections of pater-  
 nal love : by these the eccentric mind  
 adheres to thee, the centre of her hap-  
 piness ; by these she acknowledges her  
 high descent, too elevated, too divine,  
 to draw felicity from ought but thee.  
 —Where'er thy prison shines is peace  
 and joy ; 'tis that which gilds these pri-  
 son walls ; 'tis that which makes my  
 callousbed softer than the downy couch  
 of kings.

Joseph was wont to retire from his  
 solitary cell, and visit the different apart-  
 ments of the wretched : the children of  
 misery hail'd his approach ; it was as  
 when

When the lamp of day disperseth the black clouds before his effulgence : despair hid its horrific face, and misery was no more.—To some he represented an incens'd DEITY rising to take vengeance on the base transgressors of his law, till vice felt his words through all her dark recesses, and penitence impell'd the unfeign'd tear ; to the breast already impress'd by a sense of error, his words descended as the still dews of the night, and his counsels infus'd the balm of consolation on the mental wound.

In a retir'd part of the prison were two distinguish'd from the wretched inhabitants of the house of woe, by a superior dignity of mien :—in sullen pride they sat apart from all, disdain-  
ing to mingle their complaints with the general voice of affliction ; they were  
officers

officers of Pharaoh's household, whom  
 he had condemn'd to the dreary cell.—  
 Reflections on their forfeited greatness  
 tormented their distracted imagina-  
 tions; they fill'd the gloomy caverns  
 with accents of despair, and in horrid  
 language arraign'd the justice of the  
 ETERNAL PROVIDENCE.—Joseph, in  
 whose placid mind ambition had never  
 shed her baneful influence, was calm  
 as the soft breeze of summer.—Thus  
 the rill, gliding at the foot of a lofty  
 rock, feels not its lucid surface agitated  
 by the mighty storm, which swells into  
 mountainous billows the proud ocean.  
 —He felt the tenderest commiseration  
 for the unhappy, and assay'd to allevi-  
 ate their sorrows by the whispers of  
 consolation. Wherefore, O my com-  
 panions, said he, do ye thus by fruitless  
 murmurs augment your wretchedness?  
 —Your nation surpasses those around,  
 in



in the inestimable treasures of wisdom : listen to her calm still voice ; she will instruct you to bear with equanimity the vicissitudes of human life ; to look with just contempt on the precarious tenure of popular applause and the caprice of the great : she will enable you to smile on the oppressor's wrongs ; to stand unmov'd upon a fluctuating sphere. What though excluded from those friendly beams that light the world ? happiness, my friends, may yet irradiate the uncheary dungeon ; for is there a power can bind the free-born mind ?—Conscious of her origin divine, she scorns the awful menaces of tyranny, and, greatly independent, spurns the peace which hangs on the attenuated thread of human greatness.

Phanor, the chief butler of Pharoah, replied, Vain indeed, O stranger ! is

VOL. II.

G

that

that happiness which is dependant on the favour of princes ; for the motion of the tremulous wave is not more unstable than is the friendship of the great. — The keen-ey'd eagle darting through the air, leaves no traces of her flight ; so are the honors of him who reposeth beneath the smiles of royalty : even whilst he grasps the objects of ambition they recede from his possession ; they disappear as aerial phantoms. — Thus the tow'ring lily is elevated above the flow'ry race ; she extends her lucid blossoms and imbibes the influence of day. Soon her aspiring honours fade ; they are wither'd by the fervor of those beams from whence her snowy radiance is deriv'd. — But how hast thou, an inhabitant of these desolate retreats, the placid aspect of tranquillity ? — Acquaint us, thou benign youth ! for what offence thou art bereft of liberty,

berly, and sentenc'd to so rigorous a  
doom ?

Joseph return'd, Unconscious of  
evil, O my companions ! the terrors  
of guilt attend not my imprisonment.  
—ETERNAL WISDOM, whose decrees  
are ever the effusions of beneficence,  
has permitted me to taste the cup of  
sorrow ; to be afflicted by the perfidy  
of others. From my earliest youth I  
have been acquainted with adversity,  
yet never did a thought of evil pollute  
the unsullied purity of my soul. The  
SUPREME, my friends, beholds with  
watchful care, the actions of mankind :  
can, then, affliction visit us without di-  
vine permission ?—Oft as I kept my  
flocks on Mamre's plain, Israel, my fire,  
in tender language, would inculcate  
this delightful truth. He taught me to  
contemplate the DEITY as a benefi-

cent parent, intent on promoting the felicity of his universal offspring.— Charm'd with the amiable idea, my youthful mind, with filial reverence, ador'd the source of its being. Hence divine tranquillity diffus'd a gentle light, amid the gloomy horrors of a prison; and in those sad vicissitudes which mark my life, my constant trust has still reclin'd on him whose fiat even futurity obeys.

Phanor, with astonishment, survey'd the Hebrew as he spake. O wondrous force of conscious innocence, he exclaim'd, that thus sustains the mind, superior to the storms of unjust fortune, and makes even a prison smile! Plac'd on the pinnacle of ambition, we dar'd reject the mandate of an arbitrary sovereign, on whose tremendous frown destruction ever awaits.—But thou hast  
never

never known that baneful passion: thou art here condemn'd to waste the sprightly hours of youth in dark oblivion, yet guilty of no digression from the path of rectitude. Ah! canst thou still assert the justice of the ETERNAL, and vindicate the dispensations of his providence? Canst thou adore the hand that thus afflicts?—The schools of science impart not this celestial peace, this wisdom more than human.—Doubtless some immortal power informs thy soul, and casts a heavenly light around thee.—Permit me thou, who surpassest in knowledge the children of mortality, to relate those wand'rings of the mind which last night impress'd my restless fancy:—I saw a fruitful vine, from whose root arose three vernal branches: thick on the bending stalk the tender buds appear'd; to these succeeded the juicy clusters,  
but

but ill conceal'd beneath the mantling foliage.—Methought I press'd the nectareous juice into Pharaoh's cup, and presented it to his royal hand. He receiv'd it with those benign smiles with which he was wont to reward my service.—Ah, dear illusions!—were ye realiz'd!—Durst my fond heart indulge the flattering hope?

O Phanor! return'd the son of Israel, whom gay ideas of transitory greatness charm, know, thou shalt regain the unsubstantial joys which elevate thy ambitious mind.—Ere the resplendent star of day shall thrice salute the briny ocean, thou shalt be restor'd to the favour of thy prince. But, ah! cherish not the unreal bliss. Let not thy peace recline on that which is less permanent than the orient dews of the morning: tread the sacred path of rectitude,



titude, and dare to be sincere even in  
 the presence of majesty.—Thus shalt  
 thou attain a peace which depends not  
 on the smile of princes, but is immu-  
 table as the stable pillars which sustain  
 the globe.—The enraptur'd Phanor  
 fell on the neck of Joseph; he em-  
 brac'd him with transport. Thou dear  
 foreboder of my felicity, he cried, I  
 call Heaven to witness, that I will not  
 share the favour of my sovereign, if  
 unaccompanied by thee, thou soother  
 of my woes, and companion of my ad-  
 verse fortune!—If amidst the dazzling  
 splendor of a court I forget thee,  
 may these boded honours wither on my  
 head!

Twice the lofty turrets of Egypt had  
 reflected the crimson blushes of the  
 morning; twice the grey-ey'd evening  
 had cast her dusky veil o'er the earth;  
 on

on the third day liberty was proclaim'd to the imprison'd Phanor. The prison-house resounded with unusual gladness, and all the dreary vaults echoed with the joyous accents of the enraptur'd Egyptian. The benevolent Joseph, ever accustom'd to participate in the happiness of others, felt a secret pleasure thrill through his frame; the massy doors of his solitary cell were expanded; he beheld the companion of his sorrows, entering with a countenance of rapture.—Soon, he cried, thou tranquil sufferer! shalt thou behold the period of thy affliction.—I will implore for thee the favour of Pharaoh, and will hasten to open the ponderous doors of thy prison. With me thou shalt partake the beneficence of my sovereign.—But as the humid vapours are dispers'd by the returning day, the remembrance of Joseph remain'd not within

within the bosom of Phanor. It was  
 effac'd by the favour of royalty and  
 the splendor of a luxurious court.—  
 Yet though unstable the human mind,  
 thy ways, O thou MOST HIGH! are  
 not as our ways, nor thy thoughts like  
 our thoughts. To thee, as to a fortress,  
 the suffering virtuous shall repair: thou  
 shalt be a refuge to them from the ar-  
 rows of an ungenerous world.—As  
 when congregated clouds which have  
 long conceal'd the Heavens, on some  
 lucid interval disperse, and the rays of  
 the sun are seen from behind the gloom,  
 the storm-drench'd peasant again be-  
 holds the opening landscape irradiated  
 by unclouded sunshine. But, ah! fal-  
 lacious pleasures!—the azure concave  
 is again obscur'd; and gloomy clouds  
 unite in one dark mass.—Thus the ami-  
 able Joseph, whom a transitory prospect  
 of freedom for awhile amus'd, per-  
 VOL. II. H ceiv'd

ceiv'd each feeble dawn of hope secluded from his view.—Phanor has forgotten me, said he.—Ah ! how hard amidst the tow'nings of ambition, to be just to the claims of friendship.—The mariner, escap'd from the tempest, wanders on the enchanting shore, and scarcely reflects on the storm which threaten'd his existence.

Now, in the secret counsels of the OMNISCIENT, the period was assign'd for the expiration of Joseph's affliction.—The era of his prosperity drew near ; and Enoch, as he kept with Abdiel invifible watch, thus in congratulatory accents spake: The hour approaches, when the sufferings of the virtuous shall have an end. The son of Israel shall triumph over his adversity ; he shall be great in Egypt, and remotest posterity shall revere his memory.

mory.—Let us, O Abdiel! adore  
**ETERNAL WISDOM.** who, e'er he led  
 his chosen servant to prosperity, by many  
 sorrows hath prepar'd his mind, lest too  
 elate in those liberal blessings, it grasp  
 destruction.—Thus in the natural world,  
 the hoary frosts of winter mellow the  
 glebe, e'er the **GREAT RULER** of the  
 seasons permits his sun to dart too  
 fierce a beam.



Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

Woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe! woe!

## B O O K VIII.

**N**OW o'er half the terrene ball pre-  
 sided ancient night, waving her  
 ebon sceptre o'er the weary world :  
 from behind her throne issues health's  
 ever blooming daughter, gentle sleep ;  
 her countenance is plump and ruddy,  
 and perpetual smiles sit on her brow.  
 Attended by silence, she takes her  
 walk among the habitations of men,  
 and



and passing the splendid dome, often waves her somnific wand over the lowly cottage. The imprison'd Hebrew felt her refreshing influence, as he reclin'd on his callous pillow ; whilst the sovereign of Egypt, full of the cares which oppress royalty, retir'd sleepless to his pavilion. Long he reclin'd on his superb couch, while the hosts of Heaven advanc'd on their stated course around the globe.

A spirit was commanded by the ALMIGHTY, to reveal to Pharaoh those events which should shortly befall his kingdom. Sleep was permitted to seal his watching eye-lids, and the immortal led his active imagination along the margin of the Nile.—In one of those luxuriant meadows which are on the banks of that fertilizing river, the monarch beheld seven lowing heifers full  
and

and fair, feeding in the verdant pasture.—As he attentively survey'd them, as many others, lean and ill-favour'd, approaching with all the rapacity of hunger, instantly devour'd the seven fat kine.—As he meditated on the objects before him, his celestial conductor led him to a smiling valley where plenty bloom'd in unbounded luxuriance.—Seven ears of corn, more full and ripe than the rest, attracted his attention; but suddenly they disappear'd, and as many wither'd stalks arose in their room.—The prince, full of astonishment awoke.—The vision was no more, but the impression of it abode on his remembrance.—He summon'd with impatience those of his empire to whom the mysteries of science were reveal'd, but they were unable to satisfy the enquiries of their sovereign.

At

At that moment Phanor remember'd  
 the companion of his imprisonment ;  
 and a blush, deeper than vermilion,  
 overspread his cheek. Ah ! said he,  
 how have I suffered the allurements of  
 ambition to erase the memory of the  
 unfortunate ; but I will hasten to Pha-  
 raoh and atone for the ungenerous neg-  
 lect.—He arose in haste and repair'd  
 to the royal apartment, where, prostrate  
 at the foot of the throne, he thus ad-  
 dress'd the anxious monarch :—Father  
 of thy people ! this day I remember  
 with confusion my ingratitude. Whilst  
 condemn'd to languish beneath the bur-  
 den of thy displeasure, in a cheerless  
 dungeon, secluded from the light of  
 Heaven, I became acquainted with an  
 Hebrew in whom the knowledge of  
 futurity eminently resides ; let him be  
 summon'd to thy court ; he shall com-  
 pose the anxieties of thy mind.

Charm'd:

Charm'd with the welcome intelligence, Pharaoh commanded his attendants to release the Hebrew from his solitary cell.—Pursuant to the royal mandate the messenger of freedom attain'd the prison, where Joseph was elevating his morning orisons to the God of his fathers. Source of existence, said he, to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel! I praise thee for the renovated day. Beneath thy providential care I have pass'd the midnight hour in sweet repose. At thy command the vapours of night disappear behind the black mountains. The stars are no longer seen; the planets hide their glowing beams till the shadows of eve recal them to their nocturnal watch. At thine almighty fiat the vast chaotic mass glisten'd with rising light; the congregated waters knew their destin'd bed, and all the elements combin'd in harmony.

mony. Man then didst thou form, and endow with a capacity to contemplate and adore thy glorious attributes.—Oh! what exalted happiness is theirs, who, retiring from the world, can in the still retreat of distant woods adore their God, unseen by human eyes; and express the ardors of the kindling soul, unfetter'd by formal modes.—Though no such blissful privilege be mine, my voice from these sad dreary cells shall rise to thee, nor shall my grateful strains be less acceptable, though utter'd with a sigh and water'd by a pensive tear.

Prepar'd to announce freedom to the son of Israel, the messenger of Pharaoh enter'd the gloomy apartment with reverence not less profound than that with which a frail child of dust greets an inhabitant of the skies. In vain, he exclaim'd, do power and afflu-

ence seek to reflect lustre on their  
 wretched votaries. In vain the splen-  
 dor of ambition displays those trap-  
 pings which attract the superficial ga-  
 zer. Virtue, simply majestic, alone  
 can charm the soul. Virtue is true  
 greatness, and even around these dreary  
 walls reflects a radiance superior to the  
 boasted ornaments of royalty.—Jo-  
 seph, whose elevated piety had ren-  
 der'd him superior to the vicissitudes of  
 mortality, gently breath'd an ejacula-  
 tion to Heaven. His amiable counte-  
 nance express'd the grateful feelings  
 of his soul.—He prepar'd to quit the  
 gloomy mansion where he had seen re-  
 peated years revolve their course.—  
 Heavily on their hinges turn'd the mas-  
 sive doors, and nature's glowing land-  
 scapes rush'd on his delighted view.—  
 The meads appear'd more beautifully  
 enamell'd



enamell'd than he had ever beheld, and every tree seem'd flush'd with brighter verdure.—He descri'd the flow'ry retreats where he had often wander'd.—Belov'd bowers, said he, do I once more discern ye?—Ah! yonder are the summits of those shades where I have frequently heard the instructive converse of the beneficent Potiphar.—There glides the stream, on whose sedgy banks I have watch'd the wanton sports of the finny tribe.—He durst no longer indulge the tender reverie;—reluctantly he quitted the interesting scenes, and follow'd his conductor to the regal mansion.—O thou! he ejaculated, whose presence has irradiated my prison, wilt thou still be gracious to thy servant, and give me favour in the sight of Pharaoh.—Illuminate my soul, for thou art light!

Joseph was now surrounded by scenes of splendor and magnificence. He survey'd the lofty columns of marble, the stupendous dome, and superb decorations, which inspire the beholder with astonishment. O Egypt! he exclaim'd, excelling in elegance and refinement the nations around, how marvellous are thy efforts of art!—thy labours of skilful industry!—Yet if integrity presides not beneath thy vaulted roofs, better is the shepherd's tent upon the cheerless mountain.—In an apartment of the palace Phanor awaited his arrival; the mix'd emotions of joy and shame embarrass'd his countenance. He hasten'd to express his affectionate transports, but a reflection on his past ingratitude restrain'd his impatient step.—He hid his averted face, but the benevolent Joseph, who had discover'd his painful sensations, ran  
towards

towards him, and folding him in a tender embrace, exclaim'd, How much, my belov'd friend, is my happiness augmented by the pleasing consciousness of thine?—I joy to meet thee among the happy sharers of royal bounty.—Ah! return'd the distress'd Phanor—can it be possible?—Is this the voice of him whose worth I so long permitted to languish in oblivion?—O most generous of men! canst thou indeed forgive me?—It is the property of minds like thine to compassionate the weakness of humanity. The good alone know how to pardon.—Follow me to the presence of the sovereign; he is already inform'd of thy sufferings; he waits to reward them.

Pharaoh, in whose amiable character were united the mild virtues of humanity, with those shining talents which adorn

adorn empire, impatiently long'd to behold the son of Israel. He took a peculiar delight in conversing with strangers, and in learning the manners and customs of nations, incorporating such as were most beneficial with his own government.—As a wise architect, intent on erecting a magnificent building, selects his materials with admirable œconomy and wisdom, the hours appropriated by other princes to indulgence and pleasure, were by him employ'd in promoting the welfare of his belov'd people, and his munificence was ever the attendant of merit.—Joseph found an easy access to the presence of his beneficent sovereign; with a modest intrepidity he approach'd the throne, and through his expressive features shone forth that native greatness of mind, which ever results from a consciousness of unsullied rectitude; his air

was

was that of benignity ; and had an aerial being, who comes fraught with an embassy of peace to mankind, sought to conceal his splendor beneath the form of mortality, he would have chosen the amiable exterior of the son of Israel.—Already the sovereign considers him as superior to the race of mortals, and prepares to obey his word as the dictates of one inspir'd by the ETERNAL.

Joseph, inform'd of the vision which perplex'd the royal mind, replied, O prince ! high in the favour of Heaven ! the SUPREME hath reveal'd to thee those events which yet remain within the bosom of futurity.—Seven years of plenty await to crown thy happy land, when the vallies shall smile with ten-fold harvests, and prolific nature yield her liberal products.—

Whilst

Whilst yet the genial years diffuse their kindly treasures, improve, O Pharaoh! the luxuriant bounty;—then is the time to expand thy store-houses, and to reserve the surplus of abundance; for to those prolific seasons will succeed seven years of famine, when the Nile shall cease to irrigate the steril earth.—Rust will invade the labourer's sickle, and the pensive husbandman recline inactive beneath his chearless shed. But Egypt, highly favour'd, shall not feel the scourge of the OMNIPOTENT; by the enlighten'd prudence of her governors, she shall evade the impending evil.

Joseph having thus declar'd the dictates of Heaven, prepar'd to withdraw from the presence of the king; he was impatient to retire to those scenes of oblivious tranquillity, which his unaspiring



ring imagination had already pictur'd—  
 to enjoy in peaceful obscurity his be-  
 lov'd avocations; to cultivate some  
 grateful spot, or following his fleecy  
 charge o'er the dewy mountain im-  
 bibe the healthful breezes of the morn-  
 ing;—but the sovereign, animated by  
 patriotic zeal for the welfare of his  
 people, exclaim'd, Retire not O thou  
 whom the OMNISCIENT hath inspir'd;  
 I attend to thy voice as to the oracle  
 of Heav'n, and with gratitude receive  
 this manifestation of divine benignity.  
 Be thou still near to assist our counsels  
 with thy superior wisdom.—Who like  
 thyself can teach us to evade those  
 evils, which through the dark clouds  
 of futurity, have been discover'd by  
 thy illumin'd eye?—I appoint thee  
 next myself in power.

Scarcely had the monarch spake,  
 when there arose a tremulous noise  
 among the multitude who furrounded  
 the throne.—They repeated, as with  
 one voice, O prince! born to protect  
 —to bless our happy land; in this thy  
 choice, guided by wisdom, we discern  
 the paternal love thou bearest thy peo-  
 ple; long may'st thou reign to estab-  
 lish justice, truth, and meek-ey'd mer-  
 cy, o'er a grateful nation.—Again ap-  
 plausive shouts fill'd the exalted dome.

Joseph came forward with a com-  
 pos'd and sedate motion;—he wav'd  
 his hand, and silence again resum'd her  
 sway;—every eye was fix'd on him in  
 profound attention.—Thy servant, said  
 he, illustrious sovereign, possesses a mind  
 insensible to the allurements of ambi-  
 tion.—Accustom'd in my earliest youth  
 to tend my father's flocks, and for my  
 cares

cares to receive his smiles ; a rich reward ! can now a wish to tread the thorny road of greatness animate my unaspiring soul ?—Ah no :—It delineates no joys, but such as spring amidst the tranquil path of private life. I will retire to a remote corner of thy dominions, and employ the hours which by thy clemency are crown'd with freedom, in ardent prayers for thy felicity. May the blessings of the ETERNAL alight on thy land ! May they descend as the vernal showers which refresh the hills of Canaan !——A company of friends are assembled to celebrate some propitious event ;—the dreadful tidings are announc'd that one of them is no more ;—has breath'd his last at the hour he prepar'd to join the festive throng ;—the voice of joy is suspended ;—dejection sits on every countenance :—Such were the emotions of the

Egyptians, when the Hebrew had utter'd his reply.—Disappointment clouded the face of majesty. Joseph vented a profound sigh ; again he advanc'd to speak ; again attention awaited his words ; he resum'd : Convinc'd, O Egyptians of the cares which are annex'd to greatness, I declin'd the deceitful path ;—I sought the calm delights of obscurity ; but I have no will save that of Heav'n ; adversity has taught me to bend every secret wish to its all wise decrees ; from the earliest dawn of reason I have sought the felicity of others ; if by accepting those high honours, which far surpass my poor deserts, I can be instrumental to that great end,—I acquiesce ; —for this I will resign the peaceful scenes, which influenc'd my humble choice ; —I will forego those tranquil pleasures which a virtuous solitude afford.

Scarcely

Scarcely was the welcome resolution utter'd, when the air again reverberated with joyous acclamations. Pharaoh hastily descending from his throne, invested the modest Joseph with the insignia of dignity; he put a ring on his finger, and rob'd him in a flowing vestment of the richest purple. But he who had long been conversant with affliction, was now superior to the toys of grandeur. He resembled a graceful cedar, which bends not before the impetuous storm, neither is the verdure of its leaves scorched by those fervid beams which wither the flexile branches of the vine.—He declined apartments in the regal mansion, and retir'd to an humble dwelling which was unadorn'd by silver or gold;—the walls were cover'd by the branches of a woodbine, intermingled with those of an odorous myrtle;—a cascade from an adjacent

cent rock fell with an agreeable murmur, and gently stealing along its winding course, heighten'd the beauty of the charming meadows. The unassuming roof was shaded by a grove of umbrageous palms, where the feather'd songsters assembled to chant their matin song, or fill the evening air with their grateful warbles for the pleasures of the light.—But sounds more delightful than these were often heard in the happy abode ; they were the benedictions of the oppress'd, in whose behalf Joseph employ'd the power with which he was invested. He rescu'd indigence from the tyranny of the wealthy, and redress'd the widow and her pining orphans : justice wav'd her impartial sceptre o'er the land ; mercy extended benign influence ; and peace diffus'd her precious olives,

To



To the retreat which Joseph had  
 chosen, Pharaoh would often retire to  
 enjoy the most delicious moments of  
 his life; to disengage his attention  
 from the cares of royalty, and taste  
 the exalted pleasures of virtuous friend-  
 ship. Remote from the tumult of a  
 busy world, they pass'd those silver  
 hours in rational disquisitions; they  
 reason'd on the first cause of all things;  
 the beauty and harmony of the moral  
 world:—then they spake of the ex-  
 cellency of virtue, and the divine plea-  
 sures of friendship.—The voice of the  
 prince seem'd animated with rapture  
 as he dwelt on the transporting theme.  
 O thou union of congenial souls! he ex-  
 claim'd, thou art the sovereign balm  
 of life!—how dost thou exalt and har-  
 monize the mind which owns thy sacred  
 influence. Yet whilst thou pourest  
 thy blessings on the peasant, dost thou fly  
 the

the eager pursuits of royalty ? On the humble dwellings of mediocrity, thou delightest to extend thy celestial wing, and shun'st the more splendid apartments of a regal dome.—Tell me, O Joseph ! for thou hast fathom'd the human heart, why are the blessings of friendship so seldom enjoy'd by monarchs ?

That noblest passion of the human mind, replied the Hebrew, loves the generous soil which is enrich'd by intrinsic worth.—It can be only permanent in hearts ennobled by the love of virtue.—But seek not, O my prince ! for such as these among the multitudes who throng thy court. They are too oft the ambitious and the vain ; for genuine merit loves the shade, nor courts observance of the great.—The fragrant violet appears not amidst the gaudy tints which enamel the open lawn : on  
some

Some shaded bank it breathes its innate  
 sweets, screen'd by aspiring brambles  
 from the excursive eye.—Would'st  
 thou possess the friendship of the good  
 and wise, fear not the voice of truth ;  
 she is her divine colleague.—Cherish  
 not those who flatter thy passions, but  
 dread the delicious poison of their lips  
 more than the crested serpent which in-  
 habits Æthiopian wilds.—Prize solid  
 virtue more than shining talents ; and  
 know, who most desires to obtain thy  
 favour, least deserves it.

---

---

**T H E**  
**L I F E**  
**J A C O B.**

---

**B O O K IX.**

---

**O**BEDIENT to divine command,  
the earth pour'd forth her abundant stores, and from her maternal lap diffus'd those plenteous harvests by which the fainting nations were supply'd.—Egypt resembled a spacious corn field yielding its golden products to the sun. The mountains' verdant sides were cover'd with mantling vines loaded

loaded with delicious fruitage ; and the branches of the olive bow'd beneath their precious burthen.—A traveller, as he journey'd along the summit of the hills, heard the voice of joy from the vallies beneath ; for ere the rosy dawn had gilded the east, troops of assiduous swains began their rural task, nor resign'd their toil till dewy evening advanc'd.—No longer capable of labour, the ancient peasant leads a train of infant descendants to the field ; there, as with smiles they view the active scene, the hoary sage recounts those days of youth, when rising to anticipate the dawn, he foremost of the swains began the pleasing labour.—Amidst the deep retreats of ancient woods were heard the woodman's strokes ; and sleeping echoes were awaken'd by those efforts which sever'd stupendous cedars from their base, whose

tops descending to the earth, caus'd her to feel a tremulous motion, as when subterraneous fires struggle within her central bosom. The Nile sustain'd whole forests on its swelling wave, design'd to form those spacious granaries, which at command of Joseph were built throughout the land.

The benevolent Hebrew perceiving the affection of the Egyptians for their king, desirous to render yet more permanent the delicate tie, prevail'd on Pharaoh to make a tour through his now smiling land.—The monarch had ascended the throne of his fathers to reign over a numerous people; but the extent of his dominions he had never seen: the crowded city and the cultivated plain were to him alike unknown. Since the day of his attainment, the stately limits of his palace had



had been the boundaries of his sight.  
 Content not thyself, said the son of  
 Israel, like the princes who have gone  
 before thee, with sustaining the solitary  
 burden of royalty ; nor like them suf-  
 fer thy days to waste in pompous in-  
 dolence, without an effort to preserve  
 the love of those thou governest.—  
 Distance, my prince, may cherish ser-  
 vile awe, but ne'er inspir'd love. De-  
 spise the obedience which is extorted  
 by thy power, and aspire to a more  
 grateful sway, the empire of the mind.  
 —Conciliate the affections of thy peo-  
 ple ; reign in their wills, their hearts.—  
 Thus, when thy days are number'd, and  
 all the honours which adorn thy brow  
 are mingled with the dust, thou shalt  
 not need the sculptor's art to save thy  
 memory from oblivion. In characters  
 indelible it shall be writ, and posterity  
 will guard the sacred trust.

Accom-

Accompanied by his faithful minister, Pharaoh ascended his chariot ; the rapid wheels roll'd o'er the enamell'd plains ; the whole country appear'd before them as a delicious garden, water'd by innumerable rivulets diffus'd from the parent Nile ; these moistening the glebe, spread verdure and fertility ; and now labour suspended his toil ; industry reclin'd on his ploughshare.—The villagers ran with one accord ; they stood in innumerable rows on either side ; they stripp'd the verdant palm of its branches, and, as with one voice they cry, Prosperity attend the father of his people ! and blessings be on the head of Joseph !—The heart of the sovereign melted with sensations to which he had ever been a stranger ; he felt an inexpressible delight, and from his cheek wip'd a paternal tear.—To thee, he cried, as he tenderly embrac'd

brac'd the son of Israel, do I owe these  
 ecstatic feelings!—Surely, if Heaven  
 had not bless'd me with thy counsels, I  
 had never tasted those transports which  
 now elevate me above mortality.—  
 What is the boasted happiness of roy-  
 alty, but the power of promoting the  
 felicity of thousands? An inexhausti-  
 ble spring of delight arises in the mind  
 of that king, who, beholding his sub-  
 jects with the affectionate eye of a ten-  
 der father, sees them enjoying those  
 blessings his patriot care preserves to  
 them. Can the most unbounded con-  
 quest yield a pleasure comparable to  
 one such delicious reflection?

Joseph reply'd, Unhappy, O my so-  
 vereign! must be that nation whose  
 king is actuated by a thirst of conquest.  
 Vain glorious ambition! which, like the  
 baneful breath of pestilence, spreads ha-  
 vock

vock and destruction where it lights:  
 Cities subdu'd and vast dominions gain'd  
 are but as ducts which drain the vi-  
 tals of the state!—Ah see! all pale,  
 emaciated, she leans and hastens to her  
 fate.—Forc'd from their peaceful cot-  
 tage she beholds her swains compell'd  
 to quit the sickle for the martial spear,  
 and rugged thorns o'erspread her de-  
 sert plains:—then art reclines her pal-  
 lid cheek, commerce contracts her out-  
 stretch'd sails, and drooping labour  
 mourns.—These, O my prince! are  
 woes which ever wait the destructive  
 foot of war.—Far from thy land may  
 Heaven avert the awful scourge, and  
 bid fair peace diffuse her precious  
 olives!

They now penetrated the interior  
 parts of Egypt, and beheld extensive  
 wilds which for progressive ages had  
 imbib'd

imbib'd the solar rays ; yet, like some wretched miser, deep withheld their latent treasures. The putrid morass emitted an unhealthful effluvia to the fleeting gale, and noxious weeds obscur'd those plains which woo'd the morning beams : these, by the advice of Joseph, the monarch distributed in just proportions to the husbandmen. The sterile earth soon acknowledg'd the hand of cultivation, and return'd her grateful stores ; and now those extended tracts, which so lately yielded a dreary prospect to the tir'd eye, presented a chearful landscape, variegated with peaceful cottages and grazing flocks. To unsocial silence succeeded the voice of artless joy, resounding from the sweet abodes of innocence.—The swain returning at the evening hour, is welcom'd by a smiling offspring ; he partakes of the wholesome viands which

the tender matron has provided, and guiltless festivity enlivens the humble roof.—Pursue your evening pastime, ye children of humility ; ye have never trod the thorny path of greatness ; ye have never breath'd an ambitious sigh ; the peace which courts yield not is your's.

In every contribution thou exactest, said the Hebrew, beware, O Pharaoh ! that thou oppress not the laborious husbandman. The merchant may provide the elegancies, the artist the conveniencies, of life ; but agriculture alone forms the solid wealth of Egypt. Impolitic must be that government which permits this class of men to feel the weight of its support.—Ye patient children of toil ! drink ye every one the fruit of his own vine, beneath the shadow of its branches : the hand  
of



of majesty shall augment rather than diminish your cup.—Pharaoh, as he visited the flourishing cities of his kingdom, was charm'd with their splendor and magnificence ; his presence diffus'd joy to every breast ; united voices ascending to the skies, implor'd blessings on their king, and on the head of Joseph.

The monarch return'd to his palace, follow'd by the benedictions of his numerous subjects, who consider him as the guardian of their liberty and happiness ; and the son of Israel, exulting in the felicity he had promoted, enjoy'd in his retirement those precious rewards which the benevolent heart ever draws from itself ;—rewards too great for pen of mortal to describe ;—but ye shall know, ye Heaven enlighten'd few !—ye who delight in communicating happiness—whose every

thought teems with exalted love to  
 GOD, to man—to you angelic whispers  
 shall unfold, and your expanded hearts  
 shall own the pure, the extatic bliss.

In the benign bosom of the Hebrew  
 the remembrance of injuries was as  
 unstable traces on the fluctuating sand,  
 which the redundant tide erases, and  
 they are no more.—He had assiduously  
 fought the descendants of Potiphar,  
 that he might repay the kindness he had  
 receiv'd from the most benevolent of  
 men; yet vain were his grateful searches;  
 the vicissitudes which attend the race of  
 men, had wrapt their fortunes in oblivion.  
 —As he one day walk'd out, intent on  
 exploring the footsteps of misery, that  
 in those wounds which she had inflic-  
 ted, he might infuse the balm of comfort,  
 he saw a youth of an ingenuous mien,  
 pensive and alone :—the sprightly tra-  
 ces

ces of juvenile chearfulness were eclips'd by sorrow; and he sat beneath a cypress, gazing on a brook which silently glided at his feet.—Joseph drew near him; and as he approach'd, the recollection of those hours which friendship and gratitude had endear'd to his remembrance, arose on his mind; the resemblance of Potiphar was before him, and his soul was absorpt in those amiable sensibilities which had impress'd his youthful mind.—Tell me, said he, thou whose countenance sustains the vestiges of sorrow, whence arises thy grief?—Surely I perceive in thee the lineaments of one still precious to my memory.

The youth, astonish'd, prostrated himself to the ground.—May that peace, said he, which is superior to the voice of an applausive world, O my lord!

lord ! be thine ! But seek not thou the wretched fortunes of an orphan who is bereft of every friendly succour.—When Potiphar, my sire, who long had borne the pressure of adversity, found in the tomb an asylum from his woes, I was left to sustain alone the scorn of an unfeeling world, without a friend to guide my hapless youth.

Joseph could no longer suppress his emotion ; he interrupted the unfinish'd tale. I thank thee, he exclaim'd, O thou ETERNAL !—I behold the offspring of my benefactor.—O Potiphar ! whose friendship taught my youthful heart to own a second sire, why heard I not once more thy friendly voice ?—Why saw I not the melting kindness of thine eye, e'er thou hadst slept in everlasting night ?—But I will seek thy tomb, and water with my tears the  
fod

sod which hides thy relics from unhal-  
 low'd eyes : the purest breezes of the  
 morn shall visit it, and all the balmy  
 dews of eve descend upon the sacred  
 turf.—Come thou, who art already near  
 my heart ! one fate shall now unite us.  
 —The love I bore thy fire rekindles  
 in my breast.—O Potiphar ! most be-  
 neficent of men ! how often at thy  
 plenteous table have the children of  
 penury forgot their wants, and sorrow  
 stood suspended at thy door ?—But  
 who can say to riches, Ye are mine ?—  
 To honors, I possess ye ? for whilst the  
 breath dies on his lip, the boasted en-  
 joyments are no more. Less perma-  
 nent is all terrestrial bliss than are the  
 gelid drops before the shining day.

Sometimes, during the nocturnal  
 hours, fancy in her aerial career attains  
 the verge of a tremendous precipice ;  
 the

the craggy rock retires from beneath ; —she sinks ;—Destruction waits within the yawning gulph.—At that terrific moment, some friendly hand snatches her from the pernicious brink. Lost in transport, she views her deliverer with gratitude too great for utterance.—Such were the sensations of Auletes the son of Potiphar, at the words of Joseph ; he lifted his yet glistening eye from the ground, but remain'd fix'd in silence. The Hebrew translated the expressive look ; for generous minds can soon descry their fair resemblance in the kindred breast ; he led him to his house, where unrestrain'd affection bade every grief be hush'd.—Thus a tender flower, which the bleak north wind tears from its root, is shelter'd beneath the friendly branches of a cedar.

Those moments which the avocations of office left his own, Joseph applied to



to the cultivation of the young mind of Auletes. He beheld reason arising unclouded from out the mists of childhood, and perceiv'd the seeds of virtue waiting some friendly hand to rear them into social action. Then was the moment for friendship to exert its power ; for judgment, more mature, to guide the unsteady thought, and fix the veering motions of the soul ; meet task for him, whose wisdom was obtain'd of stern adversity—whose every virtue was enhanc'd by suffering! How infinite are my obligations to thee, best of friends ! said the youth, since to the favours thy liberal hand bestows, thou addest one more invaluable than all.—The human mind, uncultivated, feels a vacuum midst a plenitude of bliss.—'Tis education gives a zest to every blessing ; 'tis that by which I taste the

VOL. II.            N            numerous

numerous bounties Heaven and thou  
bestowest.

But whilst the divine exercises of benevolence serv'd to unbend the mind of Joseph from the cares of his exalted station, the image of the beautiful daughter of Poti-pherah was not eras'd from his memory. Pharaoh, desirous to ally him to his country, by the soft bands of love, sought to unite him to one of the illustrious virgins of his court ; but the heart of the Hebrew could admit no object but its belov'd Asenath.—Often was he prompted to repose the tender secret in the affectionate bosom of his sovereign ; but he knew not the charming maid return'd his love ; and the delicacy of his passion dreaded the interference of royalty.—The daughter of Potipherah, said he, excels in beauty ; her eyes are  
brighter

brighter than the gems of the east ; the blushes on her cheeks resemble the harbinger of day :—yet if her heart owns not a mutual flame, shall the friendship of Pharaoh draw her to my arms.—If her affections be not mine, how imperfect were my happiness !—’Tis the ecstatic union of the mind I seek ; that only can secure my bliss.

Actuated by these sentiments, he laid the emblems of rank aside, and, unattended, sought the dwelling of Potipherah.—Ere the quiv’ring sun beams were departed from the mountains, he attain’d the peaceful vale, where the snowy flocks repose, far from the noise of mankind. The course of a rivulet, flowing with a placid sound over the smooth pebbles, conducted him to a valley where the foot of ambition had

never trod, nor pride display'd her  
 party-colour'd plumes; all was simpli-  
 city and peace.—To this calm retreat  
 Poti-pherah had retir'd when the ami-  
 able partner of his soul ceas'd to be  
 among the living, to indulge his sor-  
 rows, and to cultivate the youthful mind  
 of his belov'd Asenath. Here they  
 contemplated the works of creation,  
 trac'd their GREAT FORMER in the  
 charming face of nature, or met him  
 amongst the stars.

The venerable man was sitting at  
 the door of his tranquil abode, half  
 conceal'd by a cluster of odorous  
 shrubs: the opening rose-bud and the  
 woodbine form'd over his head a fra-  
 grant awning.—Near him reclin'd on  
 a mossy bank enamell'd with violets,  
 the lovely Asenath; her snowy arms  
 supported a lacerated lamb which had  
 wander'd

wander'd from the fold ; it gasp'd for life, and she embalm'd it with her tears. — Cherish, O my child ! said the hoary fire, every tender, every benevolent affection. Mercy excludes not from its care, even the irrational inhabitants of the globe.—As the extended deep yields those prolific showers, which, refreshing the thirsty earth, are again receiv'd by the parent ocean ; so shalt thou give thy bread to the hungry, and thy cup to him who is athirst, and thy soul shall be repaid with felicity.—Who hath created ten thousand worlds, that they might rejoice in his beneficence ? The Most High ; he delights in the happiness of his creatures.—Imitate, O Asenath ! the divine benignity.—The effusions of a benevolent heart are more precious than the spicy odours of Arabian groves.—The hypocrite bows down in the temple, and lifts his petitions

petitions to Heaven; but the winds shall disperse them; for the widow and the orphan pine in indigence, and he regards not their misery.—His sacrifices are displeasing to the ETERNAL: the being who form'd him cannot delight in him.

The approach of the Hebrew was announc'd by the rustling of the thick branches; his animated eyes met those of Asenath, and a blush more ruddy than the dawn was enkindled in her cheek. Poti-pherah, whose peaceful retirement was the residence of hospitality, arose to greet the welcome stranger.—See, said he, the shades of evening approach; those aspiring hills reflect their dark shadow o'er the valley:—enter then this abode of innocence and peace; here no unsocial passion dwells; no niggard hand offers a scanty refresh-



refreshment to the weary guest ; partake with us what bounteous nature affords.

Asenath, obedient to her fire, had withdrawn to prepare a repast.—Her fair hands collected the most delicious grapes of the vintage ; the industrious hive yielded the choicest honey, and she set on milk of kine.—No baneful disease lurk'd beneath specious covers ; the wholesome meal was prepar'd by temperance, and season'd by chearfulness.—We adore thee, O SOURCE OF BENEFICENCE ! said the ancient, who scatterest plenty o'er the lap of nature, and biddest the varied creation administer to the comfort of mankind !—Thou suspendest the sun in the azure concave, not only to enlighten our steps and gladden us with his beams, but to impart flavour to the fruits which  
so

so much delight our taste. The lowing herds, whose bellowings cause the rocks to reverberate, contribute to our subsistence; and even the insect world exhaust their little lives in toil for us:—for us the bee explores the enamell'd heath, and sucks the subtle essence of the sweetest flowers.—Let the voice of gratitude ascend to thee the UNIVERSAL LORD!—let the creatures of thy love yield the willing tribute of thanksgiving! from the crowded city to the breezy plain, may choral hymns resound thy praise.—Sanctify those blessings thou bestowest! give them to nourish our feeble frames, and enable us with renew'd fervor to adore thy love!

Whilst they were seated at the friendly repast, Recount, my son, said the sage, what accident has led thy footsteps to these silent plains; or how  
 hast

hast thou penetrated this obscure recess,  
 where we pass the hours in sweet obli-  
 vion of terrestrial things.—O enviable  
 tranquillity ! return'd the son of Israel.  
 How delightful thus to retire from a  
 degenerate world, and, unfetter'd by ty-  
 rannic custom, obey the voice of rea-  
 son and of nature ! to contemplate  
 the SOURCE OF ALL PERFECTION ! and  
 on the sacred model form the bias of  
 the mind, till every virtue is enkindled,  
 and the ETERNAL beholds his own  
 pure image in the rising soul !—Such  
 were the placid joys on which I dwelt  
 with rapture ; but HE who governs all  
 events, will'd me a different lot, and  
 from a dungeon's desolate abyss rais'd  
 me to my sovereign's favor :—yet what  
 are all the honours of a splendid court,  
 what the unbounded confidence of my  
 prince, without Asenath's love ?—Ah !  
 vain are the allurements of wealth, the

charms of greatness, if Heaven and you withhold the precious boon.

The lovely maid, in whose ingenuous breast deceit could never boast a momentary residence, heard the soft confession ; a chasten'd joy shone in her radiant eyes ; she felt, and own'd a mutual flame. Now prostrate at the feet of Poti-pherah they awaited the fiat of their felicity.—A moment's silence succeeded.—The venerable parent looking up to Heaven exclaim'd, Behold, O thou SUPREME ! an union where avarice has no part.—Yes, my belov'd children ! ye are one ; by my sacred function I cement your long tried faith ; but to the ETERNAL let us offer a grateful sacrifice, and mingle our praises with the altar's hallow'd flame.

Joseph

Joseph and Asenath follow'd their venerable conductor to a thick wood ; on every side majestic cedars shed an awful shade.—In this sacred retirement the pious sage often elevated his orisons to the OMNIPOTENT ; and here he had erected an altar of the green turf.—Joseph caught an unblemish'd lamb of the flock ; the priest lifts the hallow'd knife ; the blood of the victim bedews the sacred earth.

While the mystic rites were performing, the youths and virgins of the hamlet had assembled, rob'd in vestments of white, and crown'd with wreaths of the verdant olive.—They sung, Hail, virtuous love ! bright emanation of the ETERNAL SIRE ! cement of bliss celestial and terrene !—The groves of Eden by thy power assum'd a brighter verdure ; young zephyrs softer blew ;

and every smiling scene new beauties  
 claim'd to bless the human pair. By  
 thee inspir'd, the heavenly gales breathe  
 sweeter fragrance, and the unfading  
 amaranth discloses a fresher bloom.—  
 Celestial flame ! which can only in con-  
 genial minds exist ; 'tis thine to exalt  
 our mortal bliss, and anticipate divine.

And now the kindling flames con-  
 sume the sacrifice ; thick clouds of  
 smoke ascend to Heaven ; the ETER-  
 NAL saw, well pleas'd, and bless'd the  
 virtuous pair ; and the seraphs who  
 surrounded the mystic fane, beheld a  
 passion as refin'd as that which warms  
 their own celestial breasts.—The holy  
 man stands by the sacred altar, and  
 thus he lifts his ardent petitions to the  
 everlasting throne : GREAT SOURCE  
 of those sensations which ennoble and  
 refine our nature ! eternal spring and  
 centre



centre of our happiness ! O let thy choicest blessings light on those whom congenial virtue has united ! May each succeeding day prove but the cement of that tender tie which links their kindred minds ! and when at length the hand of death shall open the eternal doors, in a sweet tide of grateful ecstasy, may their gentle spirits mingle with the FOUNTAIN OF EXISTENCE ! —Go, ye belov'd pair ! —the light divine shall shine around your path ; —I see, I see the prophetic day ! it dawns on my ravish'd sight, when the posterity of Joseph and Asenath shall be multiplied in the land which God shall give his people ; as a vine shall it spread forth, as a goodly vine by the waters, which taketh hold of the mighty rocks, and spreadeth among the everlasting hills.

The soul of Poti-pherah was rapt into futurity ; he was oppress'd by sensations

sations too powerful for mortality ; he  
 reclin'd on his children, and the tear of  
 transport fell from his eye.



---

---

T H E  
L I F E  
O F  
J A C O B.

---

B O O K X.

---

**W**HILST from the copious stores  
of nature, plenty was dispens'd  
o'er an exulting world, the inhabitants  
of Canaan, immers'd in ignorance like  
the nations around, knew not the AL-  
MIGHTY SOURCE of their abundance.  
—Every valley resounded with idola-  
trous devotion; and scarce a grove  
wav'd its majestic top but beheld its  
awful

awful shade polluted with victims of superstition. On every hill some gloomy idol receiv'd the frantic worship of its votaries ; and the moon, sent by her ALMIGHTY FORMER to enlighten the earth, beheld them with mystic dances hallow her approach.—The patriarch Israel lamented the impious degeneracy, and in those meetings, when convivial mirth mark'd the festive hours, he sought to enlarge the clouded reason of his companions to the comprehension of one omnipresent being ; and from the abundance which the fruitful seasons yielded, to awaken piety and gratitude to Heaven.—Behold, my friends, he would say, this fair profusion of nature's gifts ! See yonder valley yellow with corn, and those hills adorn'd with mantling vines ! The olive yields a precious oil, the gliding streams abound with finny tribes, and even the ambient  
air

air is fill'd with harmony. Enjoy the beauties which thus delight; but can you be unmindful of the power from whence those various blessings flow? The sun indeed imparts his fervent rays to gild the waving vale. and improve the purple tincture of the juicy grape; yet doubtless an almighty hand enkindled the resplendent lamp, and suspended it in the azure vault.—The moon imbibes her pleasing light from that superior orb.—The stars, whose lambent rays glitter profusely in the ethereal arch, are guided by that ETERNAL DEITY whose presence pervades all space, whose temple is the universe; too extensive even for imagination's utmost bounds.—Consider the powers of the human soul. Can such be the work of ought but an OMNISCIENT GOD; and shall the mind, thus noble in her faculties, yield adoration to a rugged

mass, by human art dragg'd from its  
 earthy bed?—No more, my friends,  
 degrade your celestial origin; attend  
 me to yonder grove, where to receive  
 your senseless homage the grim idol  
 sits enthron'd.

Israel, though inspir'd with holy fer-  
 vor, and zealous for the worship of  
 the one true God, address'd them not  
 in the language of invective; no racks,  
 nor flames enforc'd his faith; such are  
 the dreadful modes of later ages, when  
 mistaken zealots think, that by male-  
 volence and rage they promote the ho-  
 nor of the GOD OF PEACE. His looks  
 were those of gentleness, and mild per-  
 suasion was the attendant of his words.  
 —They follow him to the shade, sacred  
 to superstition's dreadful rites.—Jacob  
 hurls the pond'rous idol from its place,  
 and its broken fragments are scatter'd  
 on



on the ground.—The affrighten'd priests  
run from their dark abodes ; pale ter-  
ror is on every countenance, and each  
moment they expect the avenging  
lightning to dart on the profaner of  
their worship.—Divine influence ac-  
companies the pious zeal, and conver-  
ted multitudes request him to make  
known the God of Abraham.

On an open plain, from every part  
of which the delighted eye was greeted  
by luxuriant views, Israel determin'd  
to erect an altar to the SUPREME.—  
This enchanting spot he chose, that the  
beautiful scenes around might more  
forcibly impress the yielding heart with  
conviction of an all-wise CREATOR.—  
Soon a simple edifice appear'd of un-  
wrought stones ; and the vallies, long  
us'd to idolatrous strains, resounded  
with hymns of rational devotion. One

day in seven they celebrated with more than usual solemnity ; it was then the patriarch rehears'd to his converted audience those traditions which his ancestors had receiv'd from the first of men. He recounted the wonders of creation ; shew'd them that at the almighty word earth instantaneously burst her veil of darkness, and wond'ring spheres beheld her rise replete in beauty.—He expatiated on the felicity of man at that bless'd period, when unacquainted with sin, he was permitted to apprehend the OMNIPRESENT DEITY, converse with angels, and breathe immortal air ;—next he display'd the human soul, depress'd in her powers, enervated in her faculties by the malignant stain ; the will perverse, inclining still to evil ; and clouded reason, unable to enforce the good she dimly sees ; then gross idolatry, rear'd her impious throne, when  
the

the degenerate mind sought a material image of that POWER whose glories no mortal eye can see.

Thus benevolently employ'd, Jacob sooth'd those sorrows which still would flow at the tender recollection of his belov'd Joseph.—And now no longer soft genial showers descended; but depriv'd of timely moisture, the earth ceas'd to yield her waving harvests.—The years of fertility were expir'd, and famine shook a desolating sabre o'er the nations. The delectable land of Canaan, the chosen spot of the MOST HIGH, felt its dreadful force; she mourn'd as a youthful bride, who, bereft by some sad casualty of the belov'd object of her vows, resigns her bridal ornaments for habiliments of mourning.—Those vivid scenes with which nature delighted to adorn the promis'd

promis'd heritage of Israel were no more : the forests had exchang'd their pleasing verdure for a russet hue, and flowers of a thousand dyes lay scorch'd before the fervid rays.—In vain the weary peasant sought the olive's umbrageous shade ; he no longer heard the placid murmurs of the brook, or saw the hills white with innumerable flocks.—Hermon, on whose top balsamic dews delight to rest, and Tabor, greeted by the earliest beams of day, implor'd refreshing rains. Thou Gilboa, felt the long continued draught : Gilboa, sacred in holy song, at whose foot the mighty fell\*, when tides of generous blood bedew'd thy hallow'd turf ; then friendship felt the wounds, and the sweet muse of Bethlehem† in tuneful numbers mourn'd.

Silent

\* Saul and Jonathan, who were slain there in battle.

† See David's pathetic lamentation for them.

Silent beneath a palm-tree's leafless branches, Israel's dejected sons reclin'd; they no more beguil'd the sultry hours with festive songs; sadness sat on every brow, and silence suspended every tongue; for conscience had awoke as from a lethargy. A brother's wrongs haunted their remembrance, embitter'd every scene, and aggravated the horrors of that destruction which so near approach'd.—At length Simeon address'd the dejected brethren: Perceive ye not, said he, O wretched sons of an afflicted father! the uplifted hand of vengeance ready to overtake us for our crime?—Ah, Joseph! thy unmerited injuries arise against us before the eternal throne.——What though from actual murder we were restrain'd, surely death had been the lesser evil. Our horrid cruelty led us to sell a guiltless brother into a distant land.—Ah! stop  
my

my accusing thoughts ! tell not the dreadful aggravation !—O my tortur'd heart ! He is a slave ; we have unjustly depriv'd him of the sweet endearments of paternal love, of liberty, and all which render life desirable.—Methinks I see him prostrate before us, imploring pity, with placid look, which spake forgiveness to us, his purpos'd murderers.—Yes, even then he survey'd us with an eye illumin'd by the loveliest attribute of Heaven.—Even now perhaps he pines in some loathsome dungeon, secluded from the light, or else condemn'd to incessant toil.—He faints ; he droops beneath the oppressive burden.—Hark ! hear we not his groans—those plaintive sounds which pierce my very soul ?

Reuben, who had never ceas'd to lament the fatal deed, passionately exclaim'd,



claim'd, Pardon, O best of brothers !  
 my timid weakness. Why snatch'd I  
 thee not from their cruel hands ?—  
 Fatal pusillanimity !—Would I had  
 rescu'd thee, or perish'd in the attempt !  
 then hadst thou still enjoy'd with us a  
 father's smiles !—Better, indeed, my  
 brethren had it been as ye feign'd !  
 better to have slept in death than bear  
 the rigid chain of slavery !——But  
 whilst we, self-accusing, waste the day,  
 famine with dreadful step advances ;  
 our aged parent, our infant offspring,  
 sink before it. Let us seek our father,  
 and acquaint him, that the plenteous  
 stores of Egypt can yet supply our  
 wants.—The remembrance of guilt had  
 in the wretched brethren suspended  
 that desire of life which nature implants  
 in all. Scarcely they heard the voice  
 of Reuben, but remain'd with their  
 arms folded, their haggard eyes fix'd in

deep despair.—At length they arose, and with pensive steps sought their fire.

Near the dwelling of Jacob was a spreading palm, beneath whose branches the hapless parent had often enjoy'd the engaging converse of his lamented Joseph. Still he delighted to visit the belov'd spot ; there to indulge that tender melancholy which sooth'd his grief-oppres'd mind. With a countenance expressive of patient hope and meek submission, pensive and alone he sat beneath the shade.—How numerous, he exclaim'd, are the sorrows which fill the narrow bounds of human life ! Scarcely do the gay, illusive ideas of youth subside, when the weight of real woe crushes the rising ardors of the soul.—Fraught with sanguine views of distant happiness, we begin life's  
toilsome

toilsome journey; haply with some congenial mind endear'd by tender sympathy; then comes the grisly tyrant of the human race, and severs the faithful pair, leaving the sorrowing partner to pursue a cheerless way and woo oblivion.—If to breathe on this poor earth be all of man's existence, that period which unites the mortal frame to its kindred dust is most desirable.—But thou, O GOD, hast form'd us for a future state, where virtuous souls shall reunite, improv'd in endless bliss.

Simeon and Judah, approaching, acquainted their father there was corn in Egypt:—That plenteous land, said they, feels not the scourge which now is lifted o'er the earth; there vast resources, the wise reserves of former plenty, are yet sufficient to sustain the needy nations.—We wait thy com-

Q 2

mands

mands to fetch from thence food for our fainting households.—Jacob lifted his grateful eye to the SUPREME.—Although, he cried, the genial showers cease to refresh the thirsty earth; though the vine, stripp'd of its foliage, yields not the luscious fruit, and the yellow harvests fail; yet will we confide in thee, O thou BENEFICENT!—Go, my children, and get food for our families.

The ten retire from the presence of their father; they quit his paternal abode, and cast a parting glance on the plains of Mamre. As yet the ruddy footsteps of the dawn tremble on the hills; the grey clouds disperse, and the effulgent beams of the sun are seen to ascend from behind the blue tops of the eastern mountains.—The sons of Israel advance towards the south, and the

the land of Canaan recedes from their view ; they attain the flood, whose mighty waters at the divine command, left bare their secret channel, while the people favour'd of the ETERNAL walk'd on the dry abyfs. Now no more impetuous torrents from the wood-crown'd head of Libanus, swell'd the Jordan's rapid stream, nor dashing billows resounded as usual on the distant ear ; but the languid wave faintly rolling on the sedge bank, yielded a somnific sound, like that which the listening shepherd hears as he reclines upon the borders of some gliding rill. They pass the inglorious flood, and penetrate Arabia's thirsty desert, where torpid breezes involve the exhausted traveller in heaps of calid sand.—If in their painful way some palm, whose foliage has escaped the all-conquering heat, offers a friendly shelter, they resume

resume their mutual accusations with all the rancour of self-remorse ; each strives to palliate his own offence, and transfer the burden of his guilt, to the wretched partners of his crime and misery ; till unable to endure the stings of conscience, they arise, and in gloomy silence pursue their cheerless way.

Egypt appear'd within the horizon ; her splendid cities and exalted towers afforded a magnificent prospect to the delighted traveller ; yet it was not, as before, adorn'd with numerous canals, whose waters glisten'd on the distant eye ; nor were the vallies enrich'd with those waving harvests which twice, as the year perform'd its course, were wont to fill the reaper's hand. It appear'd an extensive plain, diversified by fallow fields and russet pastures, where meagre flocks in vain explor'd the scanty herbage.



bage. The husbandmen were seen reclining beneath leafless hedge-rows, and desponding shepherds mournfully surveying their fainting folds. Yet amidst the devastations of famine, the brethren beheld those capacious buildings in which the Egyptians had deposited the overplus of the fruitful years.

Simeon exclaim'd, O Egypt! highly favour'd by Heaven! how art thou exempted from the misery which is fallen on the nations around.—

Though the increase of thy river is suppress'd, and nature ceases to pour her treasures o'er thy land, yet feelest thou not the anger of OMNIPOTENCE! Thy storehouses are full of the precious grain, and thy people enjoy the blessings of abundance. What seraph, anxious for thy welfare, dar'd penetrate the secret determinations of the

Most

MOST HIGH, and whisper to thee the timely admonition?—What wisdom more than human inspir'd thy rulers, and enlighten'd the understanding of thy ministers?

Joseph and his belov'd Asenath were enjoying in a grove of palms the coolness of the morning air.—The delicate whiteness of her skin was enliven'd by a beautiful glow ; and the perpetual serenity of her mind diffus'd inexpressible sweetness o'er her lovely countenance ; her radiant eyes were animated with augmented brilliancy, as she survey'd her infant sons who were playing on the lawn ; to Joseph they express'd the purest love and most exalted friendship : he, in whose enraptur'd smile the tender husband and the affectionate parent were at once display'd, fondly beholding the amiable partner of his soul, exclaim'd,  
How

How lovely, my Asenath, are the charms of opening day ! the ruddy east, glowing with the rosy blushes of Aurora, enkindle in the virtuous breast the liveliest emotions of gratitude for renovated light.—Yes, BOUNTEOUS PARENT OF THE UNIVERSE ! I adore thy beneficence, whose goodness fills the circling year and surrounds me with innumerable benefits ; but chiefly I thank thee for that precious gift which sweetens every blessing ; I praise thee for my Asenath, whose virtues inspire me with sacred emulation, whose beloved society is the source of unspeakable felicity.

Whilst he thus express'd the effusions of his gratitude and love, the little Ephraim and Manasseh were engag'd in artless converse.—See, said Ephraim, my dear brother, what charming

colours adorn the face of yonder sky !  
 —How beautiful look the glittering  
 clouds!—The sun shines forth from  
 behind those grey hills which we dis-  
 cern at a distance ; he lights the little  
 birds to their sports among the bushes.—  
 Hark ! they already welcome the light,  
 and tune those sweet notes which have  
 so often delighted us in the brown cop-  
 pice.—But can you tell why the fields  
 and woods look less charming than they  
 were wont?—The trees exhibit a faded  
 hue, instead of that beautiful green  
 which us'd so much to charm us. It  
 is a long time since I saw the reapers  
 cut down the yellow harvests in yonder  
 valley.—Our father has often told us,  
 that God clothes the meadow with  
 flowers and the forests with verdure ;—  
 why does he now deny this beautiful  
 livery to nature ?—Our father, replied  
 the innocent Manasseh, has often told

us also, that the kind BEING who created us and all the pleasing objects which we see, is good and merciful; and if he withhold those beautiful scenes from our view, still we will love him; we will delight to obey him.

Their conversation was heard by the tender parents. Joseph cast a look of inexpressible felicity on his belov'd Ase-nath, whose eye sparkled with extatic delight, and a tear which trembled in the visual orb, quitted its radiant station and trickled down her lovely cheek.

Mean time the brethren had attain'd the house of Joseph; in a spacious dome, whose arched roof secluded the fervor of the piercing sun, they rested their weary feet, while that effulgent luminary, pursuing his course through the azure vault, darted his fervent

R 2

beams

beams o'er all the fainting globe.—  
 The minister of Pharaoh return'd to  
 his house, and his presence diffus'd  
 joy throughout his numerous house-  
 hold. Each faithful domestic beheld  
 his approach with joy and filial reve-  
 rence. The strangers were introduced  
 to his presence ; they bow'd before  
 him, and implor'd his aid to sustain  
 their drooping families. Whilst they  
 spake, the benevolent eye of Joseph  
 wander'd with strange emotion o'er  
 their form.—The remembrance of  
 those who own'd with him one com-  
 mon parent, was not eras'd from his  
 mind ;—he recogniz'd his brethren ;—  
 nature melted within his breast ;—thrice  
 the purple current rush'd impetuous  
 to his cheek, and thrice it return'd to  
 the seat of every generous feeling.  
 —He advanc'd towards them ;—again  
 he retreated ;—his trembling steps led  
 him



him precipitately to an inner apartment; there he indulg'd those emotions which shook his mortal frame.—The seraph Enoch follow'd his belov'd charge; he saw the tender conflict, and dropp'd a celestial tear.—O sensibility! cried the immortal, thou best gift of the BENE-FICENT CREATOR! From thee even felicity derives its essence! Thou art the precious boon which giv'st the human soul to taste of joys ecstatic and divine!

The harmonious voice of the seraph sounded in the ear of Joseph as the gentle whispers of the newly awaken'd breeze.—The perturbations of his bosom were hush'd, and every faculty lull'd into a sweet composure.—He arose to return to his brethren. Ah! he cried, is such the ecstatic bliss?—Shall I again fold in these fraternal arms

arms the children of my belov'd father?—O transcendent joy!—But should there yet remain the seeds of that baneful passion which led them to force me from Israel's paternal roof, how will they now behold my elevation?—Rather, by feign'd harshness let me prove what sentiments they still retain.

He return'd to the expectant ten, and feigning ignorance of their language, address'd them by an intérpreter.—Ye come, said he, from some happy climate which is yet unvisited by the ETERNAL'S wrath, to espy our widow'd land, once fair and fertile, but now bereft of all her gayest robes by Heaven's chastening hand.—Reuben, advancing, replied to the severe accusation, Alas ! my lord, we are no spies ; from the once fruitful land of Canaan we are come, where yet our father lives.

lives. Twelve of us, brethren, once gladden'd his paternal roof, and fill'd his hospitable board.—Our youngest brother yet remains, to soothe the heavy hours of age, and with filial piety alleviate the sorrows of a tender parent, who sinks overwhelm'd with woe, and in speechless grief laments a lost, a favour'd son.

Joseph with feign'd austerity resum'd, This specious tale ye have well contriv'd, to gain on my credulity; but know, O strangers! your insidious errand needs a better gloss.—Ye are spies, sent from some hostile kingdom to obtain advantage o'er our desolated country.—But if ye would evince your innocence, assent to what I now propose: Let one of you remain an hostage, whilst ye, returning to your land, conduct from thence the lad of whom ye spake.

At

At his words, the countenances of the ten were o'ercast by grief and despair; they broke into loud lamentations; the vaulted dome echo'd with their groans.—We now perceive, my hapless brethren, said Napthalim, the just revenge of an offended DEITY:—even here it follows us, nor climes remote can shield us from its force.—Should we, with motion rapid as that of thought, dart to the distant verge of the wide earth, even there our brother's moans would pierce the air, and the conscious winds repeat his sighs.—When he sought our compassion, we were deaf to his entreaties.—Ah! what was his offence?—If he err'd, it was in loving us too well, who sought his life.—No bitter enemy with us contended; a guiltless brother was the object of our rancour.—O injur'd excellence! if yet thou livest, pardon  
the

the foul offence!—Perhaps overcome by the weight of thine affliction, thou hast resign'd thy breath, far from thy country and every social endearment. No paternal arm sustain'd thy drooping head; no friendly breast caught thy expiring soul.—Lift up, offended justice, thy vindictive rod! pour all thy vengeance on our guilty heads! Without repining we will yield to thy just chastisement.

Joseph heard their repentant accents with sensations such as heavenly natures feel when wandering sinners quit the destructive path of vice and seek their God. His emotions became too powerful for mortality. Again he retir'd to his chamber, and sought relief in tears.—I thank thee, he said, O FOUNTAIN OF MERCY! This day I behold those who are still dear to my

foul, the children of my belov'd fire!  
 my once embitter'd enemies! not ac-  
 tuated by inflam'd passions, but soften'd  
 by repentance!—Strengthen their re-  
 turning virtue, and lead their guilty  
 minds to peace!

Mean time a tender contest had ari-  
 sen amongst the brethren.—Each im-  
 pell'd by the remembrance of his  
 crime, sought the humiliating fetters;  
 they contended who should remain the  
 requir'd hostage.—Simeon, waving his  
 hand, silenc'd the loud clamour: Ye  
 all, my brethren, said he, too freely  
 yielded to the black design; but I  
 alone consign'd the victim of our ha-  
 tred to the dreary pit: these hands  
 perform'd the detested deed, for which  
 I submit them to the galling fetters—  
 slight punishment for so gross a crime!  
 —Return you in safety to our father;  
 be



be it your task to soothe his sorrows, and support his wither'd age, and let the youthful Benjamin possess your constant love.—Farewell, my brethren ! May the ETERNAL give you peace !  
 ——To him Zebulun replied, O Simeon ! is it just that thou alone sustain the vengeance which we have all deserv'd ?—What did'st thou of that abhorr'd deed more than us ?—We all are self-condemn'd.—What then remains but mutually to bear the punishment due to our crime.—We will pass the sad remnant of our wretched days, imprison'd in this distant land.

What, O my unhappy brother ! Simeon return'd, hast thou propos'd ?—Is then the remembrance of our aged parent, our infant offspring, worn from thy breast ? and on our heads, already wet with fratricide, shall we draw the

murder of our fire?—Thy scheme is fraught with destruction to him and all his household; for whilst we here remain in sad captivity, they must fall a prey to grief and famine. Since then our offence has justly incurred the anger of offended Heaven, in humble adoration let us submit; in the midst of judgment the MOST HIGH remembers mercy.

His arguments prevail'd.—The sons of Jacob prepar'd to quit the land; their numerous camels sustain'd the precious loads; in silent sorrow they departed from their imprison'd brother.—Scarcely were they withdrawn from Egypt, when Joseph commanded his attendants to release the captive Simeon. Often was he prompted to fold him in his affectionate arms, but desirous to give stability to returning virtue,

virtue, he delay'd the melting explanation.

And now the nine approach'd the borders of Canaan; it was the hour of eve, and Jacob was sitting at the door of his humble dwelling.—Near him stood his belov'd Benjamin, dispensing the scanty grain to the feather'd inhabitants of the grove. In vain with busy wing the little warblers had patroll'd the brown forest; the hedge-rows, bereft of their leafy pride, afforded nought but wither'd tendrils to their research. The benevolent descendant of Rachel supplied their wants.—Partake, said he, ye fellow tenants of the globe, what yet our little stores afford.—The time will come, when yonder plain will yield again the yellow sheaf, and ye in vernal shades shall chant your tuneful loves.

Israel

Israel lifting his eyes to the summit  
 of the western hills, beheld his children  
 approaching, and his soul was elevated  
 in a transport of gratitude and joy.  
 Soon they attain'd the plain of Mamre,  
 and prostrate at the feet of their father  
 implor'd his paternal benediction.—  
 Ye objects of my constant cares, said  
 the affectionate parent, blessed be the  
 GOD of Abraham, who has brought  
 you safely on your way !—But, ah ! do  
 I behold your numbers diminish'd ?—  
 One is not.—Why fold I not my be-  
 lov'd Simeon in these longing arms ?—  
 He spake, but none replied.—In silence  
 the brethren hung down their heads,  
 overwhelm'd with grief.—Jacob re-  
 join'd, Wherefore are ye silent, O my  
 children ?—Why say ye not that Si-  
 meon is no more ?—Already I fore-  
 bode the dreadful tale.—Speak ye, nor  
 fear

-fear to wound a heart which has long  
been inur'd to sorrow.

Reuben unfolded the sad intelligence.

—Thy son, said he, O thou who gave  
us birth ! is yet alive. He is retain'd  
in bonds till thou permittest thy much  
lov'd Benjamin to go with us to Egypt.

—So has the governor decreed. His  
presence only can effect the enlarge-  
ment of our brother.—As when from  
some dark cloud, sudden the tremen-  
dous thunder bursts, resounding hollow  
through the dome of Heaven, the  
traveller hears aghast, and stands ap-  
pall'd.—Such terror fill'd the mind of  
Israel when he receiv'd the unwelcome  
tidings.—My son ! the reverend mour-  
ner said ; the last remain of her whose  
early death I yet deplore !—Forbid it  
Heaven !—Joseph is not, and Simeon  
I shall see no more ; and will ye wrest  
from

from me the only prop of my declining years?—Then pressing the young Benoni closer to his breast, the afflicted patriarch resum'd, My son shall not go down. Should evil wait him in the way, these hoary locks must to the grave descend with aggravated woe.

Benjamin cast himself at his father's feet.—Permit me, O my sire ! said he, to quit for awhile thy paternal roof, to be the happy instrument of restoring freedom to our imprison'd brother.—The ETERNAL will preserve us both to rejoice thy sight again.—But if one of us is destin'd to remain in bondage, be mine alone the lot.—No smiling infants will enquire my return ; no weeping spouse lament my stay.—And O how lightly fit those fetters which the consciousness of rectitude upholds!—Yes, my belov'd Simeon, I will hasten  
to



to thy enlargement ; I will restore thee  
to domestic happiness.

Israel tenderly survey'd the suppliant youth, but replied not.—He arose, and with mournful air retir'd to a grotto which seem'd adapted by nature to pensive musing.—A rill falling from the rock yielded its hoarse murmurs, and the craggy roof was cover'd with mantling ivy ; its entrance was shaded by a row of lofty pines, which seem'd to hide their ancient heads within the clouds.—There the distress'd parent utter'd his complaints ; his gentle sighs were whisper'd through the dusky cave.—O THOU, said he, who did'st create man ! why hast thou thus constructed the human frame, that even the springs of happiness become too oft the source of keenest woe ?—Thou hast attun'd the soul to social joy ; but,

VOL. II.

T

ah !

ah! what unforeseen events have power to jar the sacred strings!—Yet be hush'd, my griefs, lest I arraign ETERNAL JUSTICE!—Perhaps the chastisements of Heaven are levell'd at the errors of parental tenderness. Perhaps too fondly have I lov'd the amiable offspring of my lamented Rachel. Then welcome ye severe dispensations of IMPARTIAL PROVIDENCE! The heart whose weakness has deserv'd will bear the cruel stroke.—Yet must my Benjamin be compell'd from my sight? Must he share the hapless Joleph's fate?—Here the afflicted sire utter'd a deep groan, and remain'd silent in an agony of woe.

The amiable Dinah had prepar'd a repast for her long absent brethren.—She kneaded cakes of finest flour; and Benjamin, assiduous in the pleasing task,  
had

had procur'd honey from the rock.  
Milk of kine, and purple clusters of the  
grape, the well preserv'd produce of  
former years, crown'd the social table.

—The sons of Israel sat each by the  
object of his conjugal affections, and a  
train of prattling infants play'd around.

—But the lovely damsel shar'd not the  
repast which she had provided. She  
sat apart, heightening the general festi-  
vity by soft notes of her ivory lute.  
The tender sounds were expressive of  
a pleasing sadness; and as her fingers  
touch'd the melodious instrument, she  
melted into tears.—Amongst the  
daughters of Palestine there was none  
more lovely than the fair descendant  
of Leah; but a soft melancholy was  
spread o'er her air. She declin'd  
the rosy chaplets which were woven for  
her by the shepherds, and lov'd to sit  
at even beneath the shade of a willow,

ah! what unforeseen events have power  
 to jar the sacred strings!—Yet be  
 hush'd, my griefs, lest I arraign ETER-  
 NAL JUSTICE!—Perhaps the chastise-  
 ments of Heaven are levell'd at the  
 errors of parental tenderness. Per-  
 haps too fondly have I lov'd the ami-  
 able offspring of my lamented Rachel.  
 Then welcome ye severe dispensations  
 of IMPARTIAL PROVIDENCE! The  
 heart whose weakness has deserv'd will  
 bear the cruel stroke.—Yet must my  
 Benjamin be compell'd from my sight?  
 Must he share the hapless Joseph's fate?  
 —Here the afflicted sire utter'd a deep  
 groan, and remain'd silent in an agony  
 of woe.

The amiable Dinah had prepar'd a  
 repast for her long absent brethren.—  
 She kneaded cakes of finest flour; and  
 Benjamin, assiduous in the pleasing task,  
 had

had procur'd honey from the rock:  
Milk of kine, and purple clusters of the  
grape, the well preserv'd produce of  
former years, crown'd the social table.

—The sons of Israel sat each by the  
object of his conjugal affections, and a  
train of prattling infants play'd around.


—But the lovely damsel shar'd not the  
repast which she had provided. She  
sat apart, heightening the general festi-  
vity by soft notes of her ivory lute.  
The tender sounds were expressive of  
a pleasing sadness; and as her fingers  
touch'd the melodious instrument, she  
melted into tears.—Amongst the  
daughters of Palestine there was none  
more lovely than the fair descendant  
of Leah; but a soft melancholy was  
spread o'er her air. She declin'd  
the rosy chaplets which were woven for  
her by the shepherds, and lov'd to sit  
at even beneath the shade of a willow,



list'ning to the warbles of the nightingale.

Long the households of Israel were enliven'd by plenty, and rejoic'd in the abundance which benignant providence had provided; but now their stores were exhausted, and they again felt the pressure of famine.—The brethren assembled before their father; their embarrass'd countenances declare their wants, yet none durst name the hard condition.—Too plainly their sorrowful parent discern'd the purport of their silence. Why, O my sons! said he, did ye declare ye had a brother?—To whom Judah reply'd, He ask'd us of our kindred; could we know he would exact this proof of our sincerity?—Yet, O my father! consign the tender youth to my hand, and on me alone may thy displeasure rest,

if





if he return not to thee in safety !—  
 And now, all self-collected, the patriarch bends submissive to the will of Heaven.—I will no longer withhold the lad ; take with you the comfort of mine age, and provide a present for the governor of what our wasted country yet affords. See where the weeping myrrh distills in fragrance, and the bee deposits her precious stores among the craggy rocks. Let some ascend the airy height of the almond tree and gather its emollient treasures. These shall ye carry with you into Egypt, and may the God of Abraham protect you on your way !

With tales full of attractive sweetness, and the tender exertions of fraternal love, the youthful Benoni beguiled the tedious journey till they attained the frontiers of Egypt.—Impatient

tient to release his imprison'd brother,  
 he stopp'd not to contemplate the works  
 of art, the magnificence of the cities,  
 or the opulence every where conspicu-  
 ous through the Egyptian land.—They  
 arriv'd at the dwelling of Joseph. A  
 train of obsequious attendants con-  
 ducted them to the lofty dome; some  
 convey'd them water of the coolest  
 stream in burnish'd vases; others led  
 their drooping camels to refreshing  
 pastures.—Among the numbers which  
 throng'd the happy mansion, they re-  
 cogniz'd Simeon their brother, unop-  
 press'd by galling fetters. He sprung  
 towards them.—Welcome, my bre-  
 thren, said he, to this residence of ur-  
 banity and peace! this happy spot,  
 where plenty holds her court, where  
 sweet content follows the footsteps of  
 labour, and every bosom feels the  
 blessing of a wise and virtuous govern-  
 ment!

ment !—But whom do I behold !—my Benjamin !—Ah ! what persuasive plea induc'd our father to yield the belov'd youth from his paternal sight !

The presence of the amiable Benoni had awaken'd in the breast of Simeon the memory of Joseph. Thou dear resemblance, he exclaim'd, of thy lamented brother ! here let me fold thee to my bleeding heart.—Ah ! that engaging look, that Heaven illumin'd eye, so look'd, so smil'd, in Dothan's fatal plain !—The contrite accents fell unfinish'd from his quiv'ring lip ; he sigh'd, he wept, and in an agony of grief fell on the neck of Benjamin, who long us'd to hear the feign'd tale with which the ear of Israel had been amus'd, mingled his tears, nor suspected the real cause from whence such sorrow sprung. An angel of mercy caught

caught the precious drops ; he deposited them in a phial of celestial texture, and ascending to the empyreum plac'd the grateful offering before the sanctuary of Heaven.—Rest here, said the benign seraph, ye precious effusions of unfeign'd penitence, more pleasing to the ETERNAL than all the fragrant incense which the earth emits from her odorous bosom, when rob'd in the gayest tints of spring. The time shall come, that tinctur'd by the drops of Calvary, ye shall, from every spot ablute the repentant soul.

The minister of Pharaoh came forth from his chamber, not distinguish'd by purple or gold, but array'd in the integrity of his heart, which like a celestial robe enfolded him, and imparted dignity to his mien beyond the power of grandeur. Aw'd by his presence,  
the

the brethren sunk oppress'd before him; but he, tenderly raising them from their suppliant posture, beheld the son of his belov'd mother; then every amiable, every tender affection pressing on his mind, he exclaim'd, GOD, O my son! be gracious to thee.—Oppress'd nature sunk beneath the precious weight of his sensations.—The brethren beheld the amiable emotion, yet were unconscious of the cause.—He retir'd from their presence, whilst the obsequious attendants prepare a repast for the noon-tide hour. They heap the shining canisters with bread; the ornamented bowl is replenished with sparkling juice, and the liberal board awaits its hospitable lord.

Joseph had wash'd from his face the vestiges of his emotion, and again appears before his brethren. He places



each according to his seniority. They contemplate the just arrangement with silent surprise. To all he dispenses the plenteous viands. Festivity expands her chearful wing, and confidence animates the countenances of the guests.

As when some cruel hand has from its nest compell'd a trembling bird, impatient of restraint the little warbler flutters its wings, and labours to greet again its kindred brood.—Thus the benevolent heart of Joseph yearn'd towards his belov'd relatives. One trial more, and one alone remain'd, to evince their penitence sincere, and prove their affection for the youthful Benjamin.—He permits them to depart, accompanied by Simeon, whom the happy youth a thousand times embraces, with joy transported to have procur'd his liberty.—And now in thought



thought they greet their aged fire, and all his anxious cares repay with tenfold happiness.—But soon obscur'd are all their pleasing views ; a messenger from Egypt overtakes the happy group, and sternly asks for the secreted cup. Astonish'd, yet in innocence secure, they pledge their freedom for the heinous theft. Each opes his sack, when lo ! in that of Benjamin appears the shining treasure.—While silent with amazement all remain, the well instructed messenger displays the curious vessel to the light. On its wrought sides the ingenious artist had display'd his skill, and in the nice design express'd the fertility of Egypt.—With reeds entwin'd around his ancient brows, old Nilus from a copious urn pour'd a redundant flood, while smiling plenty in his hand he led, that o'er the vales scatter'd the plenteous grain ;

gay shepherds piping to their flocks,  
and nymphs from loaded branches gathering  
richest fruits. The pillar'd  
dome, the pyramid, and all the works  
of art with those of nature blended,  
completed the picturesque design.

But now oppress'd with anxious  
doubts, the brethren regain'd the Egyptian  
land.——Joseph, whose eyes yet  
glisten'd with the tear of fraternal love,  
awaited their approach; and suppressing  
the tenderest emotions that ever warm'd  
a mortal breast, sternly demanded the  
offender, for his slave.——Scarcely had  
he utter'd the dreadful sentence, when  
Judah approaching thus spake: Suffer,  
O my lord! thy wretched suppliant to  
plead for pity. Oppress'd with grief,  
and mourning still the loss of a lov'd  
son, our aged father heard the dread  
command to yield this youth, the comfort

fort of his age, the last sad pledge of a  
 belov'd wife. Long we prefer'd our  
 suit in vain, till urg'd by dire necessity,  
 the sorrowing parent assented to the  
 hard condition. But if the lad returns  
 not to his arms, with sorrow shall his  
 hoary head descend into the grave.—  
 Send then the innocent offender to  
 gladden his parental sight, and I a wil-  
 ling bondman will remain.

No longer able to repress his feel-  
 ings, Joseph commanded the Egyp-  
 tians to retire. Then drew near that  
 awful moment, when the human mind,  
 superior to every meaner passion, shone  
 in its native excellence, as on the day  
 when the GREAT CREATOR impress'd  
 it with his own all perfect image.—  
 Obedient to the command of Joseph,  
 the Egyptians retire ; he sits alone with  
 his brethren. He is silent ; his expres-  
 five

five eyes are animated by the undescrivable feelings of his heaving breast; his cheeks flush a brighter glow; he speaks; but who in mortal language can describe the seraphic sensations of the son of Israel, when in accents soft as the voice of angels, whispering peace to dying penitents, he exclaim'd, I am Joseph!—Yes, my belov'd brethren, I am indeed he whom you sold into Egypt!

As some fond mother who has resign'd her darling offspring to the dust, whilst weeping o'er the pensive urn, hears the transporting tidings that her child survives, what mix'd emotions agitate her bleeding heart! she trembles—hopes—believes—yet doubts.— Astonish'd nature, dubious to which passion to incline, dissolves in tears.— The brethren thus, with joy and doubt,  
heard

hear the amazing tale ; they recollect  
 the features of their long lamented  
 brother ; but swifter than the vivid  
 lightning's flash, the memory of their  
 guilt crush'd the new born joy.—  
 Again their timid eye felt conscious on  
 the ground : but he on whose soul Hea-  
 ven with a beam of mercy had drawn  
 its own benignant image, dispell'd their  
 rising fears.—Let not, said he, one self-  
 accusing thought o'ercloud the felicity  
 of this day. He in whose all-perfect  
 sight, events yet hid within the bosom  
 of futurity are clearly seen, did send  
 me hither to preserve lives yet dearer  
 than my own.—Then falling on the neck  
 of Benjamin, the tender pair mingled  
 their tears.—He now embrac'd all his  
 brethren, and folded to his benevolent  
 breast those who had sought his life.—  
 He wept aloud ; the effusions of his  
 fraternal



fraternal love were heard in the regal dwellings of the sovereign.

The brethren essay'd to speak, but the organs of articulation were suppress'd; their contrite accents died on the trembling lip, while transport, love, and true contrition wept at once.— Joseph whose face yet glisten'd with the social drops, thus address'd them: Return, my brethren, to our affectionate fire, and acquaint him of my prosperity in Egypt. Say, The ETERNAL, whom Abraham with implicit reverence obey'd, whom Isaac fear'd, and thou with unremitting ardors dost adore; he hath thy son, thy long lamented Joseph from a dungeon rais'd, to be the source of wealth and happiness to thee and all thy house.—Leave then thy widow'd land; the fruitful plains of Egypt are before thee; in Goshen



Goshen thou shalt dwell, whilst I with pious care will nourish thy declining years.

The ten obey his voice ; they hasten to their aged father, and unfold the wond'rous tale.—The crimson torrent almost forgot to flow ; astonish'd nature collected all her force to aid the patriarch's feeble frame, and sustain the flood of joy. He fainted, for he believ'd them not.—But see, replied his enraptur'd sons, the pleasing harbingers on yonder hill will soon confirm the stupendous truth !—These Israel saw, and with extatic feelings cry'd, It is enough ! Joseph, my son, is yet alive ; I will go and see him before I die.—The messengers of the generous Pharaoh arrive, and all with ready hands assist to lade the waggons and accommodate the numerous household.

—At length the venerable patriarch, escorted by his sons, his daughters, their lisping infants, and all their domestic train, began the pleasing journey.

The tedious way was trodden with hasty steps; soon they attain'd Beer-sheba, honour'd place! where the GREAT RULER of the spheres deign'd to accept those hallow'd sacrifices which Israel caus'd to ascend in fragrant steams.—While midnight shades o'er-spread the Heavens, and sleep's soft fetters had bound the good man's powers, nature's GREAT PARENT, in accents which hush'd the surges of the mind to peace, divinely spake, Jacob! Jacob, my favour'd son! fear not to enter the plains of Egypt, for where-e'er thou art, my hand omnipotent shall be thy constant guard. Joseph, thy son,

son, shall calm thy ruffled mind, and by his lenient cares soften the woes of thy declining life.—Soon as the orient lamp of day had ting'd the distant hills, the honour'd family, after they had sent their morning adorations to the skies, pursu'd their way.

Impatient to embrace the venerable author of his being, Joseph with pious ardor prepar'd to anticipate his arrival. He ascended his chariot. The foaming coursers bounded o'er the lengthen'd plain; their rapid footsteps were heard among the hills.—The orb of day was descending to the ocean when he attain'd the beautiful valley of Sinai, which is bounded on every side by lofty eminences.—Here flocks, whiter than snow, crop the flow'ry soil, and the adjacent groves are fill'd with shep-

herds, the melody of whose reeds reverberates from the rocks.—From afar a cloud of dust was seen to arise; the bleating of herds and the voices of an innumerable multitude were distinctly heard.

Now the crimson clouds approach'd the earth.—A radiant host alighted on the top of Horeb, the splendor of whose celestial shields was reflected on the distant mountains. These were the guardian angels of the house of Israel.—The lofty fides of the sacred mount were cover'd by the immortals, and Libanus's majestic brow was irradiated by the divine effulgence.

The inhabitants of Canaan descended into the valley.—Joseph discern'd amidst the multitude the venerable person of his aged father. He  
alighted

alighted from his chariot ; he ran ; he  
fell on the neck of Israel.—The good  
old man with fault'ring accents said,  
Now let me die, since I have seen thy  
face and thou art yet alive.—An awful  
silence succeeded the solemn inter-  
view ; the fanning zephyrs ceas'd to  
agitate the palms, and nature herself  
seem'd hush'd in profound attention.

Now by the still ear of night were  
heard the songs of the immortals ; the  
resplendent hosts on mount Horeb  
lifted their celestial voices ; they sung,  
Rejoice thou Heaven, and ye inhabi-  
tants of earth, for now is the ETER-  
NAL glorified !—the mysterious dis-  
pensations of his providence are re-  
veal'd to men !

Ye sons of light, who from ethereal  
orbs survey the dwellings of mortality,  
behold



behold the ALMIGHTY RULER of the  
 stars stoops to conduct the events of  
 this minuter sphere ! Exalt him ye  
 who with unclouded view contemplate  
 his perfections, adore the sovereign of  
 innumerable worlds ! Tell it, ye mi-  
 nisters of light ! proclaim it to the dis-  
 tant orbs, that HE at whose creative  
 word myriads of suns burst into light  
 and blaz'd exhaustless fires ; who leads  
 the planets, and ordains the unwieldly  
 comets a stated course amidst the track-  
 less æther ! HE, with unwearied love,  
 conducts the various lots of sinful men !  
 HE permitteth affliction to alight on  
 his belov'd, and maketh adversity to  
 be the portion of his chosen ; but  
 through the dreary path he leads them  
 to felicity ; and rewards, greater than the  
 bounteous earth affords, crown their  
 severe probation.—Beneath the pres-  
 sure of calamity, O mortals ! exalt  
 your



your joyous hymns; let your songs declare his beneficence.

Thou, Horeb, rejoice!—Ye hills of Palestine bend your wood-crown'd tops!—Ye awful forests! ye lucid streams! behold your GOD is glorified!—But chief, ye happy favourites of OMNIPOTENCE! ye belov'd descendants of Abraham! tell it among the nations that the earth is govern'd by UNERRING WISDOM!—Let Jacob re-found the important truth, and the tents of Israel reverberate the grateful theme!

Rejoice thou Heaven! and ye inhabitants of earth! for now is the ETERNAL glorified!—The mysterious dispensations of his providence are reveal'd to men!

F I N I S.

( 722 )

decline in the number of people who are able to work full-time.

The first of these is the fact that the  
 Government has been unable to secure  
 the necessary funds to carry out its  
 policy of non-interference. This is  
 due to the fact that the Government  
 has been unable to secure the necessary  
 funds to carry out its policy of non-  
 interference. This is due to the fact  
 that the Government has been unable  
 to secure the necessary funds to carry  
 out its policy of non-interference.



A circular library stamp from the British Museum. The outer ring contains the text "BRITISH MUSEUM LIBRARY" at the top and "10 APR 1977" at the bottom. The center features a heraldic shield with a crown above it. The shield is divided into four quadrants, each containing a different symbol. The date "10 APR 1977" is printed in a stylized font across the bottom of the shield.

1. The first of these is the fact that the  
2. second of these is the fact that the  
3. third of these is the fact that the  
4. fourth of these is the fact that the  
5. fifth of these is the fact that the  
6. sixth of these is the fact that the  
7. seventh of these is the fact that the  
8. eighth of these is the fact that the  
9. ninth of these is the fact that the  
10. tenth of these is the fact that the

5 1 7 1 7

# ERRATA

## V O L. I.

- Page 25, line 9, for *melifluous*, read *mellifluous*.  
 Page 28, line 9, for *lucid fleece*, read *snowy*.  
 Page 29, line 16, for *desire*, read *derive*.  
 Page 34, line 2, for *tops*, read *top*.  
 Page 36, line 10, for *animated* read *animate*.  
 Page 47, line 3, for *dictates* read *dictate*.  
 Page 54, last line but one, for *lucid flocks*, read  
*snowy*.  
 Page 67, line 18, for *exstatic*, read *extatic*.  
 Page 80, line 10, for *filial love* read *fraternal*.  
 Page 101, line 5, for *irriguous stream*, read *re-  
 freshing*.  
 Page 106, line 11, for *terrestrial*, read *terrestrial*.  
 Page 116, line 4, for *filial task*, read *pleasing*.  
 Page 131, line 9, for *son* read *sun*.  
 Page 132, line 11, for *wield*, read *hurl*.  
 Page 164, line 6, insert a comma after the word  
*sensibility*.  
 Page 191, line 14, for *culpture*, read *sculpture*.  
 In several places, for *chrystal*, read *crystal*; for  
*etherial*, read *ethereal*; and for *chaunt* read  
*chant*.

## V O L. II.

- Page 3, line 17, for *surpassess*, read *surpasses*.  
 Page 31, line 1, for *drag*, read *dragg'd*.  
 Page 59, line 2, after ETERNAL WISDOM, insert  
 a note of admiration instead of a full point;  
 and in the 5th line of the same page, insert  
 a comma after *elate*, and dele that after *bles-  
 sing*.  
 Page 118, line 14, for *draught*, read *drought*.  
 Page 139, line 10, for *us*, read *we*.  
 Page 149, line 5, dele *ing*.

ERRATA



